# **Mulloon Institute** For environment, farming and society.

#### **REHYDRATING AUSTRALIA**

We're helping rehydrate 2.5 million hectares of land & improving the lives of over 5000 farming families.

## Rehydrating the nation

The Mulloon Institute is a not-for-profit organisation that actively demonstrates and shares innovative regenerative land management practices at its living laboratory at Mulloon Creek Natural Farms in Bungendore, NSW.

Its landscape rehydration work actively rebuilds soil fertility, fixes carbon in the landscape, restores lost biodiversity, improves water quality and availability, and moderates climatic extremes. This results in increased agricultural productivity, higher quality, nutrient dense food, improved human health and greater community cohesion.

As a global leader in environmental regeneration and sustainable agriculture, the Institute uses its Mulloon Rehydration Initiative as a model to deliver landscape rehydration and catchment-scale projects across Australia - in northern Queensland, south-west Western Australia. NSW's Southern and Northern Tablelands and the Northern Territory.

## Mulloon Rehydration Initiative

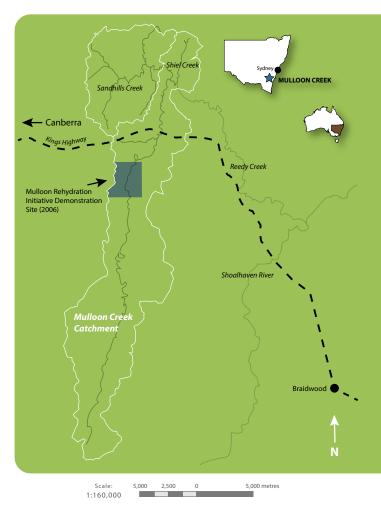
The Mulloon Rehydration Initiative is restoring the landscape function and resilience of the Mulloon catchment in southern NSW, for the benefit of local agriculture, community and the environment.

The project spans 23,000ha, 50km of creeks and tributaries and 23 local landholders. It regularly engages with universities, research and government bodies, and the Australian and international landcare communities.

The initiative's objective is to slow the creek's flow, raise its water level, and de-energise and spread out the floodwaters to reinvigorate the floodplain. It features more than 60 leaky weirs along Mulloon Creek, hillside contours, stock exclusion fencing,

and the planting of thousands of native trees, shrubs, reeds and rushes.

The creek is now a healthy, vibrant ecosystem, capturing flood sediments, recycling nutrients and providing complex habitat for birds, mammals, reptiles, frogs, fish and invertebrates. It is also producing more plant biomass and has increased water quality in Sydney's drinking water catchment.





Mulloon Creek, NSW



**Benchmarking & monitoring** 

The MRI is a research project measuring biophysical, economic and social outcomes, with comprehensive scientific benchmarks set for monitoring the success of the project in the long-term. Undergraduate and Honours students from various top Australian universities are involved in this monitoring.

Benchmarks established include:

- Water quality, stream flow & groundwater
- Biodiversity & climate
- Landscape function & primary productivity
- Soil fertility & carbon levels
- Community perception & motivation.

The MRI is jointly funded through the Mulloon Institute and the Australian Government's National Landcare Program. This funding allows for extensive and ongoing monitoring to take place throughout the project.

#### International connections

Internationally, the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network has chosen the MRI as one of five projects globally to help in the development of guidelines for sustainable, profitable and productive farming. Westview Farm, NSW, 2020

Rothamsted Research from the UK is also engaged in research, monitoring and student projects.

#### **Education & outreach**

The Mulloon Institute is committed to sharing its knowledge far and wide via practical workshops, field days, farm tours and seminars at Mulloon Creek and further afield around Australia. The Institute actively supports communities to undertake similar landscape rehydration and regeneration work, by assisting landholders with the planning and carrying out of projects on their own farms at the paddock and catchment scales.

### **Engaging community**

The Mulloon Institute has adopted a 'Bringing the Community Along' strategy, which identifies key interest groups and engages with them throughout the project.

Landholders and farmers are invited to take part in landscape rehydration training at Mulloon Creek, and communities and school groups are invited to take part in field days, study tours, workshops and volunteer working bees. Everyone is encouraged to share their learnings with colleagues and communities back home.

Westview Farm, NSW, 2018

## Support our work!

The Mulloon Institute is a registered environmental charity with deductible gift recipient status. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

### DIRECT DEPOSIT

The Mulloon Institute Donation Account BSB: 633 000 Account: No 182 864 470

Donations can also be made via:

https://themullooninstitute.org/donate



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