

# why join AABR?

To help us promote good work practices in natural areas, and strengthen our industry—and to help you be well informed, demonstrate your interest in ecological restoration, increase your employment prospects, and network with like-minded people.

AABR is the main non-government body working to advance bush regeneration in Australia. We have accomplished much promoting ecological restoration and developing the industry, but we need the support of a committed and growing member base to fulfil our goals.

Membership entitles you to discount admission to AABR events, four newsletters per year, discount subscription to the journal *Ecological Management & Restoration*.

*What great value for \$30 a year! Join us today*

## The seven 'DO's of ecological restoration:

1. address threats and causes of degradation
2. clearly identify project goals
3. soundly assess sites prior to deciding which restoration approaches to use
4. consider all components of the ecological community
5. skillfully apply treatments, ensuring follow-up and maintenance
6. monitor to see if treatments are achieving their goals, and adapt treatments as necessary
7. develop sustaining partnerships.



## The Australian Association of Bush Regenerators

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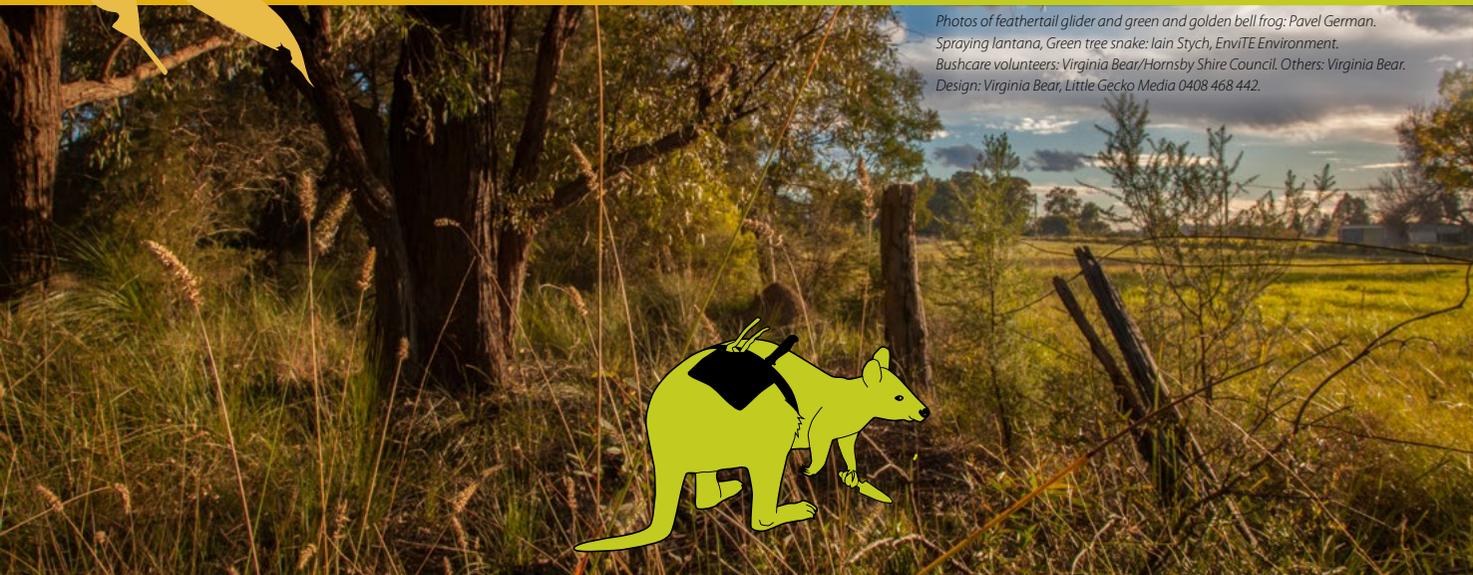
## Australian Association of Bush Regenerators

working with natural processes



*come and join us!*

Photos of feathertail glider and green and golden bell frog: Pavel German.  
Spraying lantana, Green tree snake: Iain Stych, EnviTE Environment.  
Bushcare volunteers: Virginia Bear/Hornsby Shire Council. Others: Virginia Bear.  
Design: Virginia Bear, Little Gecko Media 0408 468 442.



## what is AABR?

We are an association, incorporated in NSW in 1986, with several hundred members from all over Australia.

Our aim is to promote the study and practice of ecological restoration, and foster and encourage effective management of natural areas by qualified people, based on sound ecological principles.

Our activities are motivated by a deep sense of respect and awe for the complexity, intrinsic values and beauty of locally adapted ecosystems, and a desire to see them conserved in perpetuity—and brought back to health if degraded by human impacts.

*Does this sound like you?*

*AABR has strong links to our many partner organisations in the promotion and pursuit of restoration locally and globally.*

## what does AABR do?

- offers industry accreditation in assisted natural regeneration—a scheme valued by land managers employing on-ground restoration practitioners
- presents talks, seminars and field trips
- manages a web site with information about bush regeneration, news and current events, and a help page
- provides the Bushjobs service, via the AABR web site
- publishes a contractor and consultants list
- publishes regular, high quality, newsletters
- advocates to all levels of government regarding ecological restoration
- operates 3 email list servers—Bush Regeneration, Bushcare and the Volunteer Coordinators' Network.



## Membership

All interested people are welcome to join. AABR members include bush regeneration professionals, bushcare and landcare volunteers, natural area managers, landowners, policy makers, contractors, consultants, nursery people, local, state and commonwealth government officers—and lots of people who just love the bush and want to see it conserved.

Apply at [www.aabr.org.au](http://www.aabr.org.au).

## accreditation

AABR accreditation is generally accepted as recognition of competency as a bush regenerator. Accreditation is open to anyone who has 500 hours or more practical experience in ecological restoration work (voluntary or paid) under an AABR-recognised supervisor over a period of at least two years and who has completed an AABR-recognised course in bush regeneration. This experience and training leads to the applicant gaining the 12 bush regeneration competencies listed by AABR. People with the same amount of field experience who feel they have gained the AABR competencies in other ways may also apply. This will involve a special assessment. Apply at [www.aabr.org.au](http://www.aabr.org.au).

## ecological restoration

**Ecological restoration** is the intentional practice of assisting the recovery of locally occurring ecosystems, that have been degraded, damaged or destroyed, taking into account ecosystem change.

*AABR draws specific attention to the pivotal role played by **natural regeneration**—a role which needs to be considered in all restoration projects.*

Degradation of ecosystems varies on a spectrum from low to high. At the low degradation end, restoration approaches focusing on assisting natural regeneration are most appropriate. At the higher degradation end, a 'reconstruction' approach will be required unless sufficiently long time frames are available for natural recolonisation.

All approaches to restoration should aim to achieve very high levels of functional and structural similarity with the pre-existing ecosystem.

**Bush regeneration** is an Australian term for a form of ecological restoration involving a range of treatments (including the skilled removal of weeds) applied in a manner that triggers natural regeneration of surviving, dormant or nearby species.

AABR is proud to retain the term 'bush regeneration' in its name to acknowledge the pioneering contribution of this practice to the development of ecological restoration.

*For more information see AABR's Guiding Principles for Ecological Restoration and Rehabilitation at [www.aabr.org.au](http://www.aabr.org.au)*

