

**Vanessa Macdonald** has a Bachelor of Applied Science (Protected Area Management) degree and is a fully trained soil conservation officer having completed a graduate Diploma in Conservation and Land Management (Conservation Earthworks) in 2008. Vanessa has also completed an informal three year traineeship in conjunction with State Departmental staff, using Departmental guidelines to conform to the principles of the Soil Conservation Act.

Vanessa is supplied with a **fully equipped survey vehicle** and is supported by a number of other officers through GIS and land management technical skills. As a **team** they have the capacity to provide a range of land management advisory services.

Vanessa's skills include cropping systems and grazing land management principles, planning and design of soil conservation works, coordination of soil conservation design works, surveying and supervision of earthworks (waterways, contour banks, diversion banks, erosion repair works), and the establishment of grazing land management monitoring sites.



land management services  
soil conservation

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Queensland Murray-Darling  
Committee  
trading as Swift NRM

*The swift parrot is classified as endangered  
and has the longest migration of the  
world's parrots, moving from Tasmania to  
southern Queensland every autumn.*



Finding community  
solutions to  
NRM challenges



## Soil conservation services...

- Scoping of group/individual property landscape design issues.
- Preliminary investigations (soil conservation plan identification and status, Regional Ecosystem mapping, collation of soil, land use and land capability mapping, satellite imagery etc).
- Property inspections.
- Property planning and design (including GIS mapping).
- Whole-of-project coordination including the Identification of public utilities affected by construction of planned works and consultation with neighbours, councils and relevant public utilities.
- Surveying and implementation (pegging waterways, waterway grassing technical support, surveying contour banks, keeping field records).
- Construction supervision and works certification if required.

## Managing runoff to prevent soil erosion and rehabilitating eroded and badly disturbed country are important measures in property management.

### Swift NRM offers a cost competitive soil conservation service for the design, implementation and coordination of soil conservation works.

All works are designed using the design principles from the Soil Conservation Measures Design Manual for Queensland developed by the state's Department of Environment and Resource Management, which incorporates the Soil Conservation Act.

### Key soil conservation measures...

- Well designed and constructed waterways, contour banks and remedial earthworks are proven and reliable measures for soil conservation.

- Coordination with neighbours is critical to ensure that systems work effectively.
- The rehabilitation of eroded and disturbed country, resulting from historical grazing practices or other intensive land uses, can be achieved through measures such as diversion banks, stabilisation through permanent groundcover, and by fencing to exclude livestock and feral animals.
- Diversion banks, shaping of erosion gullies, and establishment of permanent ground cover can reinstate stable watercourses.

### Properly designed soil conservation measures...

- Retain valuable and productive topsoil and boost agricultural productivity.
- Protect the natural environment and create stable landscapes.
- Reduce sediment loads and runoff into waterways, creeks and rivers.
- Restore productive capacity and promote long term sustainability.

Keen to know more? Contact Vanessa Macdonald, Land Management Services Officer, to discuss your soil conservation requirements.

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