



ANNUAL REPORT

JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2003

**Features a time line identifying
significant events in the history
of the Woody Yaloak Catchment Project**



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since 1963

The desired outcome of the Woody Yaloak Catchment Project:

- Viable businesses.
- A strong community capable of managing change.
- A natural environment that nurtures business viability and works within the capacity of the catchment.
- Protection and enhancement of remaining natural flora and fauna.



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since 1963



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Contents

1. Chair’s report	5
2. Our partners commitment to natural resource management	7
3. 2003 in review	9
4. Financial position	15
5. A timeline of significant events in the history of the Woody Yaloak Catchment Project	16
Appendix 1 – Recipients of funding (2003)	23
Appendix 2 – Woody Yaloak Catchment Project Executive Committee - 2003	24
Appendix 3 – Landscapes for the Future annual report	25
Appendix 4 – Financial statements	28



1. Chairman's Report



2003 was another big year for the Woody Yaloak Catchment Project. Away from Landcare the drought conditions made the first half of the year a real struggle. Thankfully some useful mid year rains left us with a reasonable season.

Despite the tough conditions a record amount of on-ground activity was undertaken by landholders in the catchment. Projects worth more than \$300,000 were started, 29% more than in 2002, with some groups undertaking works on a scale not seen before. This clearly demonstrates the value of the neighbourhood group process in maintaining enthusiasm and commitment and much credit needs to go to Jen Clarke for keeping this vital part of the project going.

The only problem all this enthusiasm creates is the ability to financially support the activities. Continuity of funding remained the biggest challenge for the executive committee. This difficulty was foreseen last year and we have worked tirelessly to diversify our funding support. The revenue section of this report illustrates the diversity of funding we have secured and we must thank Cam Nicholson for his efforts in this area. In 2003 we were successful with 12 funding applications worth more than \$430,000 to fund on ground works, group support and educational activities and we are also progressing well towards achieving deductible gift recipient status. This will allow the Woody Yaloak Catchment Group to apply for support through philanthropic trusts. One unfortunate aspects is we now have a

dozen organisations that we need to report to in varying degrees of detail and at varying times.

It is great that we have entered our 11th year of Alcoa support. There is no doubt their continued support is a key factor in the success of this project. Since the project inception Alcoa have invested more than \$800,000, a remarkable contribution in any language. Thank-you to Joan McGovern and all at Alcoa for your enthusiastic support for the project.

The Woody Yaloak Catchment Project has been lucky to have a number of supporters, both internally and outside who continue to provide a valuable service without much recognition. Locally we have people like Marie Curtis who represents Woody on the gorse task force. Externally we have organisations like the Victorian Farmers Federation who were the main broker to get the project started and even though their activity in landcare has reduced, they still provide a great service through employment contracts, affordable insurance, incorporation and machinery hire documents. We also appreciate the support Federal member David Hawker has given the Group.

The upper Woody Yaloak catchment has been identified as a target area for salinity investment. While this may not be surprising to many who live with the salt, it does mean we can now get the resources to have a real attack on this problem.

In June this year Alice Knight resigned as chair of the Woody Yaloak Catchment Group. For many who are not involved in the internal workings of the project, it is hard to appreciate the legacy Alice has left in her five years as chairman. Alice was instrumental in getting the neighbourhood group concept underway, the new five-year direction plan and has been fearless and unrelenting in pursuing bureaucrats, politicians and

funding bodies to spread the word about our success. There is no doubt our success with funding applications, recognition in the media and invitations to speak at conferences is largely because of Alice and her networking. This year we won the Victorian Catchment Landcare Award and I feel this was fitting recognition for the enormous amount of work Alice has done for this project.

As always our appreciation must be extended to those landholders who have done their time on the Executive Committee. A big thank-you to Lex Hadler, Doug Hucker and Shayne Ellis. Also thanks to Ted Rowley who resigned to take up a landcare position in South Africa and to Frank Carland who resigned from DNRE. Both Ted and Frank were great supporters of the Woody Yaloak Catchment Project and their innovation and passion will be missed. Once again our staff of Cam Nicholson, Jen Clarke, Ross Hadler, Troy Missen, Suzie Ellis, Justin Liddy and Pam Oddie have done a wonderful job at times when their security of employment was often tenuous. We really appreciate you sticking with us. I welcome onto the committee David Coutts, Col McKenzie and Peter Donovan.

Finally I wish to make comment on the selection of land at Pittong as a potential site for the toxic waste dump. The Woody Yaloak Executive Committee do not believe this is a suitable site for such a facility and will be actively pursuing the consultants engaged to assess the site with all the technical information we have at our disposal. The salinity and groundwater problems alone should exclude the site from consideration. We all create the waste, storage of it should be on public land.

However, what I find most disturbing is the secretive and confrontational way the Victorian Government has gone about shortlisting these sites, notifying the

affected owners and the local community. The past decade of landcare has been modelled on being open, engaging the community and involving everyone in finding solutions. The actions of Major Projects Victoria has the potential of dis-engaging many in our community from anything associated with this Government. This includes Landcare. If this occurs it would be a tragedy and set back voluntary natural resource management many years. Major Projects Victoria could learn a lot by looking at the way landcare involves the community and modelling their approach on it.

2004 promises to be a big year with many exciting projects to complete and our decade anniversary celebration to undertake. I trust you are looking forward to it as much as I am.

Michael Rowe

Chairman.

2. Our partners' commitments to natural resource management

The Corangamite Catchment Management Authority

The Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CCMA) was established in 1997 (one of nine in the State) by the Victorian Government to ensure the protection and sustainable development of land, vegetation and water resources within a boundary stretching from Geelong to Ballarat and along the coast to Peterborough.

The aim of the Authority is to provide an environment that facilitates a community based approach to the integrated management of our catchment.

With its many partnerships, the Authority implements major programs dealing with catchment and river management.

The Corangamite Catchment Management Authority is responsible for the co-ordination and prioritising of projects under the Australian and State Government initiative "National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality", the Natural Heritage Trust 2 Program and the National Landcare Program as well as coordinating and implementing many Victorian Government funded projects.

The Woody Yaloak Catchment Group is an important group within the Corangamite Region because of its ability to enrol people into implementing natural resource management outcomes. The group continues to be a leader in its brokerage and partnership role, supporting its members with technical advice and resources. The Authority would also like to acknowledge the important role that the Woody Yaloak Catchment Group play with leading innovation and sharing their learnings with other community catchment groups both within and external to the

region. The Woody Yaloak Catchment Group fosters partnerships and the Authority is one such partner.

During 2003 the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority congratulated the Woody Yaloak Catchment Group for its receipt of the Sensis Landcare Catchment Award at the Victorian Landcare Awards in August (we wish the Woody Yaloak well for the next level of this judging for the National Landcare Awards in August 2004!); provided additional funding of \$80000 to support the operations of the Catchment Group and valued the opportunity to meet several times with the Catchment Group committee to discuss funding and planning priorities and the development of projects.

The Corangamite Catchment Management Authority looks forward to continuing to support and work with the Woody Yaloak Group to assist in providing a healthy environment that has positive social, economic and environmental outcomes.

Alcoa and 'the Woody' – a great partnership

The year 2003 was auspicious for a number of reasons, not the least of which because the Woody Yaloak Catchment Group celebrated its 10th anniversary in Landcare.

At the same time, the group's partnership with Alcoa World Alumina Australia also reached the 10-year mark.

It was an excellent time to review what had been achieved in the catchment and with Alcoa's other partners since the Victorian Alcoa Landcare Program began in 1991.

Since 1989 Alcoa has spent \$20 million in Landcare across Western Australia and Victoria and anecdotally,

we know that catchments were better equipped to manage issues confronting them.

A series of case studies by researchers from the Department of Sustainability and Environment and from the Department of Primary Industries was written on outcomes achieved in Victoria, investigating if partners had enhanced their sustainability.

The Woody group findings proved undeniably that the catchment was considerably stronger – environmentally, economically and socially. Alcoa congratulates warmly the Woody Yaloak Catchment Group. Other great stories were revealed during the researchers’ interviews with our Victorian Landcare partners. Alcoa also celebrated another decade-long Landcare partnership with Serendip Sanctuary in 2003.

At the end of the year our very long-term partners, Greening Australia, and Alcoa were honoured with a Prime Minister’s Community Business Partnership Award for longevity (21 years). Greening Australia was a key collaborator with Alcoa and the Woody group in the early years.

The year 2003 was also when Alcoa’s well-known Landcare consultant, Ted Rowley, left to pursue other work options. Alcoa is indebted to Ted for the value that he added to all our partnerships in WA and Victoria, including the Woody Yaloak Catchment Group.

Alcoa’s focus now is on celebrating our partners’ achievements and on helping them to continue to innovate, adding to the sustainability of our communities and our country.

Joan McGovern

National Landcare Manager, Alcoa World Alumina Australia



3. 2003 in review

A record number of project applications were received from neighbourhood groups in 2003. Fourteen groups have now developed integrated five year plans that have been stored on the Woody Yaloak Geographic Information System (GIS).

The review of the 2003 year is described in four parts. These are:

- Commitment by landholders to undertake new works in the next 12 months.
- Works that were claimed by landholder in 2003.
- Staffing to support planning and implementation.
- Revenue to match the proposed works.

3.1 Commitment by landholders to new works

Seventeen neighbourhood groups planned for new works in 2003. A summary of the works to be undertaken is listed (Table 1).

There was a significant increase in the level of activity in 2003 compared to previous years, with funding of \$104,192 committed to neighbourhood group projects. Since the neighbourhood group process began in 1999, there has been a steady increase in the quantity of investment but also the scale of each activity. Revegetation activities have increased over time and preparatory type work such as erosion and weed control has diminished (Figure 1).

Funding to neighbourhood group projects since 1999 has exceeded \$535,000. This has been matched by landholder contributions making the total investment through the neighbourhood group process in excess of \$1.15 million. The proportion of investment in the main activity areas is presented (Table 2).

Figure 1 Total expenditure on activities since neighbourhood group formation (1999 - 2003)

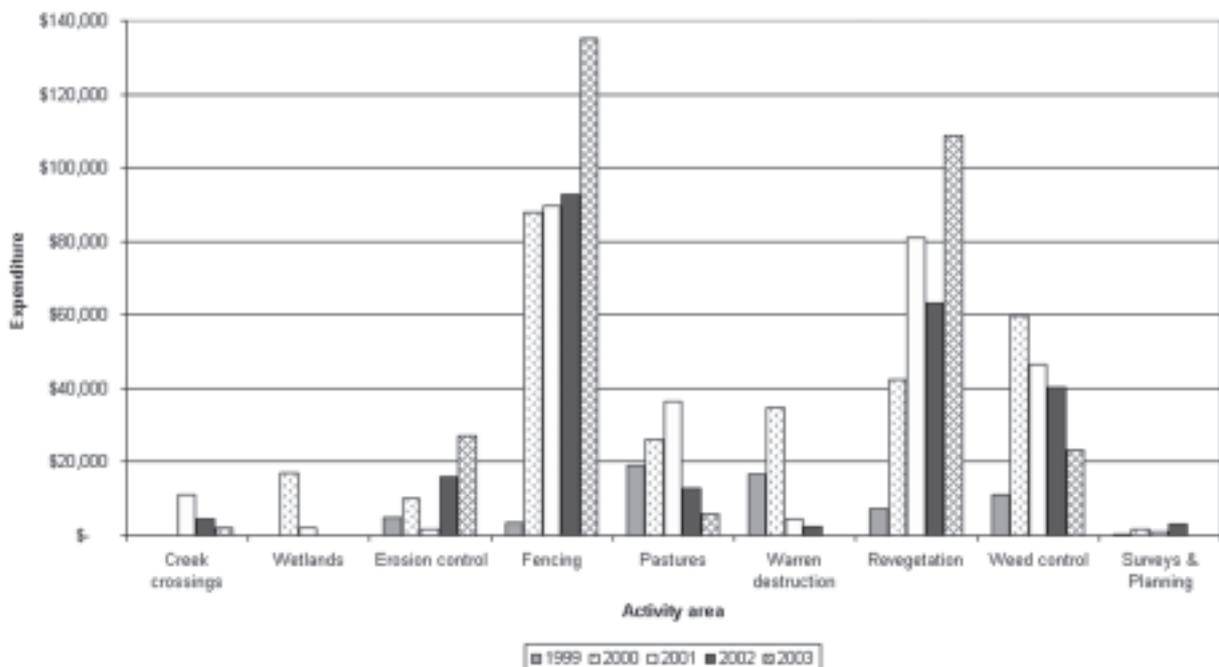


Table 1 – Works planned in 2003 (with a comparison to 2002)

Activity	Quantity in 2003	Change from 2002	Total project expenditure ¹
Creek crossings	2 crossings	+ 1 crossing	\$2,110
Erosion control earthworks	234 hrs	+ 78 hrs	\$27,042
Fencing			
Erosion	0.0 km	-5.0 km	\$0
Landscape (shelterbelts)	37.4 km	+17.9 km	\$110,697
Remnants	0.5 km	-2.9 km	\$1,191
Waterways	10.3 km	+2.2 km	\$23,333
TOTAL	48.2 km	+12.2 km	\$135,221
Pastures			
Seed & fertiliser	0 ha	-18.1 ha	\$0
Water troughs	5 troughs	+2 troughs	\$5,841
TOTAL			\$5,841
Rabbits ripping	0 hrs	-25 hrs	\$0
Trees			
Landscape (shelter belts)	46,534 tubestock	+23,854 trees	\$92,545
16.8 km direct seeding		+12.6 km	\$2,024
Watercourses	8,717 tubestock	-1,713 trees	\$13,254
5.2 km direct seeding		+1.2 km	\$744
TOTAL	55,251 tubestock	+22,241 trees	\$105,799
	22 km direct seeding	+13.8 km	\$2,768
Weed control			
Cultivation	63 hrs	-162 hrs	\$4,936
Herbicides	246 litres	+49 litres	\$18,275
TOTAL			\$23,211

The total financial commitment for these works, including landholder input was calculated at \$302,000. This is an increase on 2002 of \$67,000 or 29%. Landholder cash and in-kind (labour) investment increased to 66% of the total project cost. This is a rise from 2002 and is partly due to a reduction in material cost subsidies for revegetation project from 75% to 50% because of funding limitations in the second half of 2003.

¹ Includes grant allocation, landholder cash and 'in kind' contribution. GST exclusive.

Table 2 Investment in various on ground activities (1999 to 2003).

Activity	Amount	Percentage
Creek crossings	\$ 17,872	1.5%
Wetlands	\$ 19,000	1.6%
Erosion control	\$ 59,524	5.2%
Fencing	\$ 408,647	35.4%
Pastures	\$ 100,365	8.7%
Warren destruction	\$ 58,674	5.1%
Revegetation	\$ 302,546	26.2%
Weed control	\$ 180,532	15.7%
Surveys & planning	\$ 5,953	0.5%

3.2 Works completed and claimed by landholders

Works completed and re-imbursed by the Woody Yaloak Catchment Project in 2003 amounted to \$93,342.65. This was a \$33,150.09 increase on the previous year. Claims made by landholders were 3.3 % over budget.

Fifty three landholders made claims to reimburse works completed (Appendix 1). Thirty six of these landholders had not made a claim in 2002 and in the past five years 114 different landholders have been

re-imbursed for works undertaken through the Woody Yaloak Catchment Project.

3.3 Support staff

The Woody Yaloak Catchment Project used the services of seven people to help support the project in 2003. All are engaged on a part-time basis, with three operating as employees and four as contractors. Total employment in 2003 was equivalent to approximately 1.5 full time people (Table 3).

Table 3 – People employed by the Woody Yaloak Catchment Project (2003)

Name	Title	Maximum employment duration*	Employment tenure
Cam Nicholson	Project manager	1.5 days / week	Contractor ²
Jennifer Clarke	Neighbourhood group facilitator	2 days / week	Contractor ³
Ross Hadler	Neighbourhood group support officer	0.5 days / week	Employee
Suzie Ellis	GIS support officer	1 day / week	Employee
Troy Missen	Neighbourhood group GIS officer	1 day / week	Contractor ⁴
Justin Liddy	Rabbit control facilitator	3 hrs / week	Employee
Pam Oddie	Treasurers / accounts	2 hrs / week	Contractor ⁵
TOTAL		1.5 FTE	

* use of contractors is on an as needs basis and varies considerably throughout the year.

² Partner in Nicon Rural Services

³ Director, JTC Rural Facilitation Pty Ltd.

⁴ Operating as Troy S Missen.

⁵ Partner, DPM computing.

3.4 Revenue

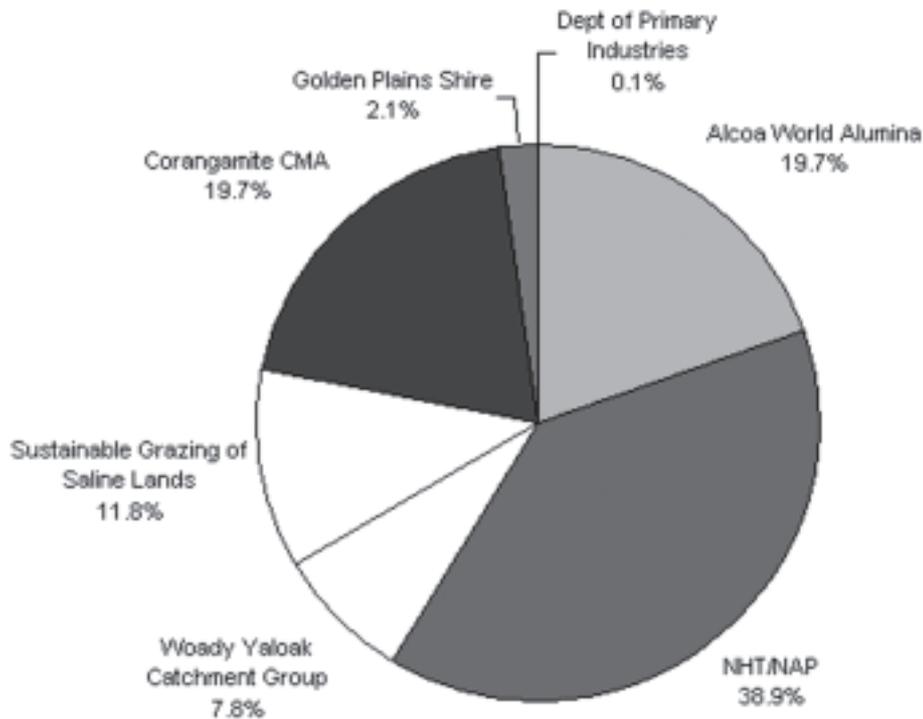
Funding received and banked for on ground works, support staff, publicity / communication and other initiatives totalled \$152,192.18 (excl GST). This does not include a further \$86,340.00 (excl GST) in agreements that have been signed but the money not received yet. This combined revenue is 11 per cent lower than 2002

and is partly due to an instalment type approach recently adopted by funding partners, rather than one complete payment used in previous years.

Seven funding sources were used to match funding from landholders. The contributions of various partners is highlighted (Figure 2).

Figure 2

2003 financial contribution from partners



3.5 Additional Highlights

On ground activities

- Two new neighbourhood groups formed. These two groups planned to complete more than \$60,000 of works in their first year.
- A series of pasture walks and a seminar on drenching and worm control was conducted as part of the Bestwool 2010 program. A trial conducted by the CSIRO aimed at improving the timing for Red Legged Earthmite control commenced at Pittong in October and a weaner management course is being organised for early 2004.
- A native grass trial was established at Happy Valley in conjunction with Greening Australia Victoria. This trial is aimed at looking at alternative vegetation to establish into sites recently cleared of gorse.
- A rabbit control information session on the use of Pindone oats as an alternative to 1080 carrots was held. Forty-six people attended.
- The Pittong neighbourhood group participated in a biodiversity pilot project run by the CCMA and the DPI. The pilot resulted in an integrated vegetation plan to retain, restore and replace important vegetation in the area. David Coutts and Ken McBeath assisted with the information collection along with six students from Ballarat University.
- An application was submitted to the Federal Government to support pasture productivity work in 2004 to 2006.
- Discussions commenced with Alcoa to look at ways of forming partnerships to counter greenhouse emissions.
- Information sessions regarding the possible implications of the new Corangamite Regional Catchment Strategy were held.
- A five-year direction plan (2003 –2007) was developed in response to the new Corangamite Regional Catchment Strategy.
- Comments were made on the statewide landcare co-ordinators employment strategy, the National Landcare Program (NLP) review, the Parliamentary inquiry into acid soils and the draft Environmental Effects Statement (EES) for the Pittong waste site.
- Technical information was collated to challenge the suitability of the location of the toxic waste facilities at Pittong.
- A productivity sub committee was formed to co-ordinate farm production activities planned in 2004.
- The 2003/2004 executive committee are listed (Appendix 2).

Committee initiatives

In response to the need to expand funding opportunities, the following initiatives were undertaken by the executive committee:

- Deductable gift recipient status was applied for, to enable the Woody Yaloak Catchment Group to apply to philanthropic trusts for funding.
- The Woody Yaloak Catchment Group won the Sensis Victorian Landcare Catchment Award on the fourth attempt. The Woody Yaloak Group will now represent Victoria at the National Landcare Awards in Canberra in August 2004.
- The Clarksdale Bird Sanctuary was one of five finalist in the prestigious Banksia Environmental Awards.
- A highly commended award was presented by the

Australasia Pacific Extension Network to the Woody Yaloak Catchment Group for their approach to landholder engagement.

- A 10-year anniversary event to celebrate the achievements of the Catchment Group was planned for April 2004.
- A booklet to commemorate 10 years of Woody Yaloak was completed and will be launched at the anniversary celebration.
- Development of a Woody Yaloak website began (www.woodyyaloak.com.au)
- Cam Nicholson and Jennifer Clarke presented findings from the 10-year audit of activities in the Woody Yaloak Catchment and the application of the GIS at the National Landcare conference in Darwin. Five people from the catchment group attended the conference through support received from the Corangamite CMA.
- A series of six fact sheets highlighting the biodiversity benefits from recent revegetation activities was prepared by Claire Dennis of Greening



Australia Victoria.

- The Catchment Group actively supported the Groundworks field day at Rokewood.
- The Catchment Group hosted five tours (CSIRO, Deakin University, Marcus Oldham College, a delegation from China, Alcoa), gave four presentations and appeared in four news articles.
- Woody at work signs were produced to draw attention to on ground projects.
- Distribution of 600 copies of the 2002 Woody Yaloak annual report to politicians, bureaucrats, sponsors, agency staff, the catchment community and visitors.
- Two successful neighbourhood group gatherings at the Old Happy Valley school and the Illabarook hall plus the AGM were held during the year.
- Three local newsletters were produced.

Geographic Information System

- Additional historic projects were placed on the GIS.
- *Landscapes for the Future Ltd*, the not for profit company formed by the Woody Yaloak Catchment Group completed a successful 2002/2003 year. Highlights included:
 - A small operating profit of \$3,872.13.
 - Sales of \$37,236.46 comprising 12 complete packages and 56 copies of the **Streets Ahead** software.
 - Twenty demonstrations and presentations.
 - Training for 50 people conducted by Jennifer Clarke.
 - A copy of the 2003 Landscapes for the Future Annual Report is provided (Appendix 3).

4. Financial position

The Woody Yaloak Catchment Group Inc. made a net loss of \$59,870.41 for the year ending December 31, 2003, in contrast to the 2002 profit of \$33,544.72. This loss is consistent with expectations as grant money received in late 2002 were still being expended in 2003 and funds committed by supporters this year had not been received.

Income declined by 45 per cent, from \$274,442.12 in 2002 to \$152,192.18. The most significant reasons for the decline were a reduction in grant revenue, down by 29 per cent and the creation of the *Landscapes for the Future* company which began operating independently of the Woody Yaloak Catchment Group. These two events accounted for 95% of the revenue decline. Other revenues raised by the Group remained similar to 2002 at \$12,761.58.

Expenditure declined in 2003 to \$212,062.59, a reduction of 12 per cent from the previous year. The

greatest decline was associated with *Landscapes for the Future*, where expenses dropped by more than \$59,000. The significant decrease in expenditure on the Geographic Information System (GIS) corresponded to the finalisation of this work.

Increased expenditure occurred in grant payments to landholders, up 55% to 93,342.65 and additional staff costs, up 22 % or \$17,465.22. Other costs such as publicity / communication and committee activities remained constant.

The net assets of the Group rose significantly to \$45,646.52, up by \$13,294.57. Equipment accounts for 27 per cent of these assets.

Profit and loss, balance sheet statements and equipment schedule are presented (Appendix 4).



5. A timeline of significant events in the history of the Woody Yaloak Catchment Project

1992

January
Bob Carail from the Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) contacts Cam Nicholson from the Department of Agriculture seeking a potential landcare catchment project.

June
Public meeting held and the Woody Yaloak Catchment Group is formed, comprising two members from the Werneth, Rokewood, Misery Moonlight and Pittong-Hoyles Creek Landcare Groups. Kevin Knight is elected chairman.

March
Five landholders from the catchment (Kevin Knight, Jim Boyle, Simon Caldwell, George McKenzie and Michael Collins) host the VFF and Greening Australia Victoria (GAV) and tour the catchment.

July
VFF invites landholders to prepare a river catchment action plan.

1993

April
First meeting of the Woody Yaloak executive committee is held, with GAV managing the accounts, Grenville Shire employing the coordinator and Alcoa, via Wade Hughes providing communication and management support.

April
The action plan presented to Alcoa and initial support of \$145,000 for on-ground works is secured. After 27 meetings the action plan is completed and is adopted by the community at a public meeting. The 10c/ha/yr levy is introduced.

September
John Collet from the Alcoa Landcare Program in Western Australia visits the catchment.

December
All first year targets for pastures, trees, rabbits and erosion exceeded. Sixty-two landholders, who farm 36% of the land in the catchment are involved.

February
A National Landcare Program (NLP) application is successful, allowing employment of a part time project officer two days a week.

May
Cam Nicholson is employed as project officer and Justin Liddy as rabbit control facilitator.

June
Woody Yaloak, Productive Catchment Management logo is adopted.

July
The first quarterly newsletter is produced.

November
Official launch of the Woody Yaloak Catchment Project in the Misery Moonlight catchment by Victorian Environment Minister, Geoff Coleman. The Minister said "This is the first time we have seen this type of treatment done on a whole of catchment basis and I hope it is the first of many." More than 400 people attended.

March

First annual report is produced.



July

A direct tree seeding machine is purchased after a successful NLP grant application.



November

A chemical spray unit is purchased by the Rokewood Landcare Group.



April

A self guided tour booklet of the Woody Yaloak Catchment is developed in partnership with Alcoa, the VFF and NLP.

December

A 1995 survey reveals the work undertaken with the assistance of grants accounted for less than half of all the landcare type works occurring in the catchment.

June

A concerted effort commences to attract other corporate sponsors.

July

Catchment video produced with support from Alcoa. An application for the first National Landcare Awards is unsuccessful.

March

Three farms in the catchment feature in the ABC Open Farm scheme.

December

Sixty-five percent of landholders in the catchment now actively involved in the project, a rise of 25% from the previous year.

January

The Grenville and Haddon Landcare Groups join the project. The Woody Yaloak Catchment Group becomes incorporated.

April

Demand for catchment tours begins to increase.

September

Kevin Knight is invited to present the Woody Yaloak story at the inaugural National Landcare Conference in Hobart.

February

Alcoa commits to a further three-years support, with funding amounting to a cash commitment of \$375,000 for on-ground works and communications.

December

Landholder involvement rises to 52% of freehold land in the catchment.

March

A Landcare Environment Action Program (LEAP) commences in the catchment. Two properties featured in the ABC Open Farms scheme.

July

A reception is hosted by the Golden Plains Shire to thank Alcoa for their contribution to the area.



February

Woody Yaloak establishes its own bank account and resumes responsibility for project employment before council amalgamations.

May

The Scarsdale - Smythesdale landcare group forms and joins the catchment project.

October

Paul Crock replaces Kathy Junor as VFF / Alcoa Landcare Officer, Fleur Maidment replaces Ian Dreher as Department of Conservation and Natural Resources representative and Tim O'for replaces Steve Burke from GAV.

1994 1995

February

The executive committee agrees to become more 'political' in seeking resources for the Project.

March

With help from Ted Rowley, the neighbourhood group concept is introduced, starting with a pilot project involving three farmers on the Lower Naringhill Creek.

May

Forty landholders seek funding through the Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE) Land Protection Incentive Scheme, as the Woody Yaloak Catchment Project was unable to directly support their projects.

December

Landcare activity drops significantly after Government resources are allocated to certain priorities, making many landholders ineligible for support. Four pilot neighbourhood groups and three rabbit co-operation groups are established with the assistance of Alcoa.

February

A Rabbit Action Plan is developed in partnership with DNRE.

May

State Greenhouse initiative *Replanting Victoria 2020* launched by the Environment Minister Marie Tehan at Pittong.

September

A document stating the outcomes and performance indicators for a service agreement with DNRE Melbourne is prepared but not executed because of a change in State Government.

October

Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) proposal for neighbourhood group facilitation is supported.

1998

June

A series of 'think tanks' held to reinvent the Woody Yaloak Catchment Project.

July

Meetings commence with DNRE Melbourne to develop an agreement where DNRE pays the Woody Yaloak Catchment Project directly and the catchment group purchases technical services from the most appropriate suppliers.

March

Success with the State Greenhouse initiative *Replanting Victoria 2020* (\$200,000 over three years) provides opportunity to recommence large scale revegetation projects away from waterways.

June

An application submitted for third National Landcare Awards is unsuccessful.

August

Alcoa agrees to re-direct a small portion of their sponsorship to ensure some co-ordinator continuity is maintained while other funds are sought.

April

Sustainable Grazing Systems supports two neighbourhood groups with productivity work on lime and increasing winter feed production.



November

The GIS development work piloted with the Pittong-Hoyles Creek Landcare Group is expanded to the whole catchment.

December

A total of 14 neighbourhood groups are operating, with each group developing integrated five year plans.

July

Cam Nicholson's role as project officer is changed to project manager, with Jen Clarke and Phil Holding employed part time to support the planning and implementation of neighbourhood group projects.

April

Tim Archer is employed part time to co-ordinate the gorse and serrated tussock control programs in the Corindhap / Misery Moonlight areas.

January

The annual report concept is revived after a three year absence. Chairman Alice Knight wrote

"It has been a challenge to re-design the Woody Yaloak Catchment Project to meet the rapidly changing needs of our community, the DNRE, private sponsors and the CCMA... and...I believe the Project has taken the first steps in making this change."

April

A project database is established to track neighbourhood group projects and contributions made to the projects by multiple funding sources.

May

The Executive Committee of the Woody Yaloak Catchment Group is restructured into portfolio areas.

August

The production of neighbourhood fact sheets commences, highlighting the success of different Landcare projects.



March

Neighbourhood group gatherings begin, where a number of neighbourhood groups host other members of the catchment and present what work they have been doing.

September

Alice Knight speaks at Alcoa's 12 year Landcare celebration in Western Australia.

October

A 10 year audit of practice change in the catchment is undertaken with support from the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CCMA) and Alcoa. The results show significant change in productivity and adoption of more sustainable natural resource management practices during the past decade.

December

Twenty-eight neighbourhood groups are active in the catchment at the end of 2001 with more than \$280,000 worth of on-ground works committed to in 2002.



December

A neighbourhood gathering at Clarkesdale Bird Sanctuary attracts more than 100 people.

2000

June

Introduction of GST forces the Catchment Group to employ Pam Oddie as part time book keeper.

July

Alcoa provides \$24,000 to assist in information exchange activities in the catchment.

An application submitted to the Fourth National Landcare Awards for the GIS project receives a highly commended certificate in the research section.

September

Phil Holding moves from the district and is replaced by Ross Hadler. Troy Missen and Suzie Ellis employed part time to ensure the GIS becomes operational catchment wide.

April

Alcoa commits a further \$127,000 over three years to support on-ground works, communication and information sharing activities.

August

GIS project enters final stage of development and is extended catchment wide. Golden Plains Shire provides office space to set up equipment.

December

The 2000 annual report, highlights there are 18 neighbourhood groups in operation involving 104 individuals or farming partnerships.

August

The Woody Yaloak Catchment Group hosts other catchment and network groups in the region at a one-day workshop to share ideas and explore common issues.

August

Large roadside signs erected.

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March

Governor of Victoria John Landy launches the GIS package called *Landscapes for the Future* at Linton.



October

Testra Countrywide tree planting day at Mt Mercer.



December

More than 130 people are actively involved in neighbourhood groups at the end of 2002. The 10th neighbourhood group gathering attracts more than 120 people. Total investment through the neighbourhood group process since 1999 exceeds \$830,000.



March

The Woody Yaloak Catchment Group helps host the *Groundworks* field day at Rokewood.

June

The Clarksdale Bird Sanctuary is a national finalist in the Banksia Environment Awards.

October

After 10 years, the Woody Yaloak Catchment Group had hosted 74 tours, held 48 information sessions, been involved in 10 university projects, appeared in the print and electronic media 66 times and were invited to speak at 17 conferences and workshops.

May

Concerns about highly specific Government funding programs threaten to undermine the 'whole of catchment' approach taken by the Woody Yaloak Catchment Group. Executive Committee commences campaign to raise concerns over funding.

2002 | 2003

August

A joint program between the CCMA, DNRE and the Woody Yaloak Catchment Group targets gorse in the upper waterways of the catchment.



February

A new five year plan is developed to integrate with Corangamite Regional Catchment Strategy.

November

Three *Bestwool 2010* discussion groups are formed in the catchment.

April

The Executive Committee creates an independent not-for-profit company to promote the *Landscapes for the Future* GIS package in Victoria. The CCMA supports this development with a \$40,000 grant.

November

A partnership agreement is reached with the CCMA to pilot the development of a biodiversity action plan in the region.

August

Woody Yaloak wins the Sensus Victorian Landcare Catchment Award on the fourth attempt.

April

The Woody Yaloak Catchment Group is invited to present the results of the past decade's activity at the third National Landcare conference in Darwin.

November

An area at Pittong short-listed as a potential site for Victoria's Toxic Waste Dump.





Appendix 1 – Recipients of funding (2003)

— Asterisk indicates no claim in 2002.

Ballarat Field and Game	McCulloch*
Banks*	McCallum*
Bastin*	McKenzie, C
Bingley*	McKenzie G*
Butterworth*	McRoberts*
Carr*	Mellington, P*
Checkley	Mellington V
Chenery	Meritt*
Cooke*	Mills*
Daniel*	Missen T*
Donovan*	Neville*
Eayrs	Phillips, D*
Ellis*	Phillips G*
Everett	Rowe*
Fagg, D*	Sharpe, K
Fagg, K*	Shepherd
Fagg, L*	Stephens*
Fagg, S	Stewart, G*
Featherstone	Stewart GJ*
Fraser	Walton, W
Getsom*	
Guy, S	
Holmes*	
Hucker	
Jones*	
Keating*	
Kerr, I	
Kerr, M	
Kerr, R	
Laffan*	
Laidler*	
Lewis*	

Appendix 2 Woody Yaloak Catchment Project Inc

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2003

Name	Portfolio Group Member	Landcare Group
Michael Rowe (Chair)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic partnerships • Finance • On ground works • Productivity 	Pittong Hoyles Creek
John Carr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance (Chair) • Strategic partnerships 	Rokewood
Marion Walton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication / publicity (Chair) 	Rokewood
Daniel Laffan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On ground works (Chair) • Productivity 	Grenville
Alice Knight (past Chair)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic partnerships (Chair) • Finance • Communication / publicity 	Pittong Hoyles Creek
Col McKenzie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Productivity (Chair) • On ground works 	Misery Moonlight
Peter Donovan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On ground works • Productivity 	Misery Moonlight
David Coutts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication / publicity 	Pittong Hoyles Creek
Brett Missen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On ground works 	Werneth
Kevin Knight (past past Chair)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance 	Pittong Hoyles Creek
Vacant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	Dales
Vacant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	Werneth
CCMA representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic partnerships 	Corangamite CMA
Alcoa representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic partnerships • Finance • Communications 	Alcoa World Alumina
DPI representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic partnerships 	DPI

Appendix 3 Landscapes for the Future – Annual Report



History

Landscapes for the Future began as an initiative of the Woody Yaloak Catchment Project.

Over a number of years, the Woody Yaloak Catchment Project had been working closely with Rick Pope from Land Victoria and Ballarat software developers Osprey Computing to develop a user friendly, low cost geographic information system (GIS) with Landcare specific application.

The software product developed by Osprey Computing is Streets Ahead™, and it's application has become a very important tool for project management in the Woody Yaloak Catchment.

With the successful application of the software in the Woody Yaloak Catchment, widespread interest from the broader Landcare community became evident. In keeping with the desires of the Woody Yaloak Catchment Group to share their experiences with others, a not-for-profit company, Landscapes for the Future Limited, was created in 2002. The specific purpose of the organisation is to extend the GIS concept to other Landcare networks.

Landscapes for the Future Limited offers Landcare networks a package of GIS/GPS technology, data, skills and knowledge. The package has been formulated to assist Landcare groups with project planning, monitoring, reporting and information sharing.

The Landscapes for the Future Vision

"To share the knowledge obtained as catchment management leaders to improve rural land management for the benefit of residents, businesses and the environment."

The Board of Landscapes for the Future Limited

The Board is made up of four directors:

Alice Knight (Chairperson), Woody Yaloak Catchment Project
Cam Nicholson, Nicon Rural Services
Pam Oddie, DPM Computing
Danny O'Neill, Chandris Pty Ltd

Progress

The Governor of Victoria, John Landy, launched the Landscapes for the Future concept on March 21, 2002.

Since that time, the company has grown in capacity, output and reputation. The package is now well recognised in Victoria and is used by a wide range of Landcare Groups and Networks. Interest is also growing interstate, with Streets Ahead being used by a small number of Landcare Groups in Western Australia and Queensland.

Current users of Landscapes for the Future include:

Upper Campaspe Combined Landcare Group
Mallee Catchment Landcare Groups & Networks
Greening Australia, Portland
Corangamite Catchment Landcare Networks
Hopkins Moyne Landcare Network
Emu Creek Catchment Landcare Group Inc., Jones Gully, Queensland

Sharing the skills and knowledge that has been developed in the Woody Yaloak Catchment is a very important part of the Landscapes for the Future ethos. Over the past 18 months, Landscapes for the Future has worked closely with Rural Industries Skill Training (RIST) Hamilton to develop an accredited training course designed specifically to compliment the Landscapes for the Future Package.

The training teaches landholders and Landcare coordinators to use Streets Ahead as a tool for recording information, planning and monitoring natural resource management activities at both farm and catchment level.

Chairperson's Report

It was with great excitement that the Landscapes for the Future concept was launched in 2002. This was the culmination of seven years work by the Woody Yaloak Catchment Group and its supporters to create a Landcare specific, easy to use Geographic Information System.

Since its inception, Landscapes for the Future Limited has achieved some satisfying results. A total of 12 Landscapes for the Future base packages have been sold, plus an additional 26 copies of Streets Ahead Standard and 32 copies of Streets Ahead Pro. Approximately 20 demonstrative presentations and training sessions have been held for various resource management groups with some 50 people receiving hands on practical training from our facilitation staff. In addition to this many landholders in the Woody Yaloak Catchment have also utilised one-on-one and group training sessions to become more familiar with their Streets Ahead software, which is assisting them in better land management.

The financial year ended 30 June, 2003, saw a pleasing result with the company returning a small surplus after expenses of \$3,872.13. In keeping with the strategic plans for the business, any surplus will be reinvested into the company for administrative costs and the funding of any further developmental projects.

On behalf of the Board of Landscapes for the Future Limited I would like to extend our thanks to the team of people who have enabled the concept to take flight. To Rick Pope (Land Victoria) for his ongoing commitment to the project; Jennifer Clarke for her tireless efforts particularly in facilitating presentations and training sessions; Cam Nicholson who has been a driving force for the project; the development team at Osprey Computing for the initiative they have shown in developing the Streets Ahead software; the co-ordinators at Rural Industry Skill Training, Hamilton who have greatly assisted in compiling an excellent training program; Alcoa Landcare for their strategic financial support and the input of Ted Rowley; and the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority for their financial support, especially in the establishment of *Landscapes for the Future Limited*.

The team behind Landscapes for the Future Ltd have some exciting plans for 2004 and beyond. These include a marketing campaign targeting further Victorian Catchment Management Authorities through informative promotional material and presentations to CMA staff, Landcare coordinators and landholders interested in improving their natural resource management. Promotion of useable GIS through Landscapes for the Future will also continue through our expanding network of contacts in other states.

Alice Knight

Chair – Landscapes for the Future Ltd

Package Details

The Landscapes for the Future Package includes:

- Streets Ahead™ Pro GIS software & compatible Sportrak Magellan Geographic Positioning System (GPS). The package includes 1 copy of the software and 1 GPS unit.
- Base data layers: hydrological, cadastre & contour data plus black & white satellite imagery for a Landcare Network/Group area. The standard data size supplied with the package is sufficient to cover an area of about 55 km by 55 km.
- Multi user licensing of data that allows the Landcare network to purchase one copy of the base data layers and share it amongst its members – one license covers the entire network. Please note, this data supply arrangement is specific to Victoria. In other states, Landscapes for the Future is only able to organise a multi-user licence for satellite imagery. Outside Victoria, network groups must negotiate with their state government agency to source hydrological, cadastre and contour data.
- Training manuals – step by step, screen by screen guide to using the Streets Ahead software.
- Template layers to use for data collection or as a guide to develop customised map layers. Template layers are provided for mapping and collecting data about catchment boundaries, waterways, erosion, drainage, fact sheets, pasture, salinity, vegetation, wetlands, weeds, pests & paddock history.
- Twelve months technical support.

Package costs \$5200 plus GST.

Additional copies of the software which include the rights to use the Landscapes for the Future Package:

Streets Ahead™ Pro \$459 plus GST

Streets Ahead™ Standard \$229 plus GST

Training

Training can be arranged through Rural Industries Skill Training (RIST). RIST offers an accredited training course comprising 3 very practical, half-day sessions.

For further information in regard to training workshops please contact RIST Hamilton on 03 5573 0943.

LANDSCAPES FOR THE FUTURE LIMITED
 ABN 39 101 860 600
 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2003

Revenue from Ordinary Activities

Income	2003 \$
Software Sales	
Demonstration Software	80.00
GPS Units & Accessories	180.00
Landscapes Base Package	24,613.46
Streets Ahead Pro Sales	9,180.00
Streets Ahead Standard Sales	3,183.10
	37,236.46
Less Cost of Good Sold	
Software Purchased	
Licence/Data Purchase	7,500.90
Purchase – GPS Units & Accessories	793.64
Purchase – Streets Ahead Pro	7,540.92
Purchase – Streets Ahead Std	2,297.46
Software Purchased – Other	6,023.63
Postage & Delivery	79.49
Printing & Stationery	659.68
	24,895.72
Gross Profit on Software Sales	12,340.84
CCMA Start-up Grant	40,000
Presentations to Groups	1,611.76
Training	2,829.00
Training Manuals	185.00
Net Income	56,966.60
Expenditure from Ordinary Activities	
Administration/Secretarial Fees	4,877.09
Bank Service Charges	33.55
Company Registration Fees	406.00
Facilitation Expenses	43,035.01
Legal Fees	3,234.00
Marketing Supplies	829.27
Travel	679.55
Total Expenses	53,094.47
Net Surplus	\$ 3,872.13

Appendix 4 Financial Statement

Woody Yaloak Catchment Group Inc.

ABN: 86 543 641 340

Profit & Loss Account

For the year ending 31 December 2003

Income (excl GST):	2003	2002
Grants (note 1)	\$ 139,430.60	\$ 196,491.41
Levies (note 2)	\$ 3,524.86	\$ 6,941.24
Interest	\$ 3,511.20	\$ 1,598.92
Sales (note 3)	\$ 4,775.52	\$ 4,450.46
Landscapes for the Future (note 4)	-	\$ 59,678.72
Other (note 5)	\$ 950.00	\$ 5,281.37
Total Income	\$ 152,192.18	\$ 274,442.12

Expenditure (excl GST)	2003	2002
Grants for on ground works	\$ 93,342.65	\$ 60,192.56
Contractors / salaries*	\$ 97,674.14	\$ 80,208.92
Publicity / communications	\$ 13,203.56	\$ 13,867.36
Geographic information systems	\$ 1,850.98	\$ 16,407.61
Committee activities (note 6)	\$ 5,131.58	\$ 9,567.78
Landscapes for the Future	\$ 533.40	\$ 59,678.72
Other	\$ 326.28	\$ 974.45
Total Expenses	\$ 212,062.59	\$ 240,897.40

Net Profit **-\$ 59,870.41** **\$ 33,544.72**

NOTES

- Note 1 Grants received from Alcoa World Alumina, the CCMA, NHT and Golden Plains Shire
Note 2 Paid by members of the landcare groups in the catchment.
Note 3 Includes rabbit baiting program and fox control programs, tours, equipment hire and garment sales.
Note 4 Began operating as a separate company in September 2002.
Note 5 Includes Landcare award prize and hosting RCS workshops for the CCMA.
Note 6 Includes expenses at NHG gatherings and fox/rabbit programs.

* = includes tax, superannuation, workcover, travel and all secretarial expenses (postage, travel, telephone).

NB: This account has not been officially audited.

Balance Sheet

For the year ending 31 December 2003

Current Assests

Cash at bank	Acc: 1027 7534 (CBA)	\$	133,814.82
Investments at bank	Acc: 5026 6856 (CBA)	\$	28,708.58
	Acc: 5026 7779 (CBA)	\$	37,485.28
Total Current Assets			\$ 200,008.68

Non-Current Assets

Field equipment		\$	7,279.57
Computer equipment		\$	4,939.13
Total Non-Current Assets			\$ 12,218.70

Outstanding Debtors

Grant agreements (note 1)		\$	94,974.00
TOTAL ASSETS			\$ 307,201.38

Current Liabilities

Grant agreements (note 2)		\$	260,325.60
GST Liability		\$	1,124.39
PAYG withholding		\$	104.87
Total Current Liabilities			\$ 261,554.86

NET ASSETS \$ 45,646.52

NOTES

Note 1 This refers to agreements signed and tax invoices sent but not received by Dec 31, 2003.

Note 2 This includes grant agreements referred to in outstanding debtors.

NB: This account has not been officially audited.

Equipment Schedule

For the year ending 31 December 2003

Computer equipment

Item	Purchase cost	Opening price	Dep rate (%)	Amount	Closing price
Computer*	\$ 2,500	\$ 900	40	\$ 360	\$ 540
Software*	\$ 3,500	\$ 1,260	40	\$ 504	\$ 756
Plotter*	\$ 4,000	\$ 1,440	40	\$ 576	\$ 864
Laser printer*	\$ 600	\$ 216	40	\$ 86	\$ 130
Colour laser*	\$ 2,000	\$ 720	40	\$ 288	\$ 432
Consumables*	\$ 800	\$ 288	40	\$ 115	\$ 173
Laptop computer	\$ 2,250	\$ 810	40	\$ 324	\$ 486
Data projector	\$ 5,695	\$ 2,050	40	\$ 820	\$ 1,230
Digital camera	\$ 615	\$ 221	40	\$ 89	\$ 133
Photo scanner	\$ 326	\$ 326	40	\$ 131	\$ 196
		\$ 8,232		\$ 3,293	\$ 4,939

Machinery

Item	Purchase cost	Opening price	Dep rate (%)	Amount	Closing price
Bait layers (4)*	\$ 4,800	\$ 3,072	20	\$ 614	\$ 2,458
Carrot cutter*	\$ 600	\$ 384	20	\$ 77	\$ 307
Ripper*	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,009	18	\$ 182	\$ 827
Gas guns (2)*	\$ 500	\$ 281	25	\$ 70	\$ 211
Protective helmets (2)*	\$ 150	\$ 84	25	\$ 21	\$ 63
Direct seeding machine & trailer*	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,200	20	\$ 640	\$ 2,560
Spray unit	\$ 1,677	\$ 1,067	20	\$ 213	\$ 854
		\$ 9,097		\$ 1,818	\$ 7,280
TOTAL EQUIPMENT				\$ 5,110	\$ 12,219

NB: Items marked with an asterisk were deemed to be 'fair market prices' as of 31 Dec 2000 and appear as the purchase price.



