

## Sandy and Jim Doig, Scott Creek South Australia

In 1996 we bought a rundown, over-grazed 14 hectare property on which to retire eventually with our horses.

We developed a property management plan. In five years we had removed more than 3 ha of blackberries, removed pest weeds from the creekline, re-vegetated and fenced off.

Rotational grazing, manure management and supply of water to horses with troughs instead of using the creek are just some of the work undertaken.

We now reap the benefits. More grazing for horses, ongoing property maintenance is easily managed – and there's more time for riding!

See our story on [www.horseslandwater.com](http://www.horseslandwater.com)



## Did you know?

Your horse's health is linked to the environment in which s/he lives.

You can save money if your horse property is well managed ...

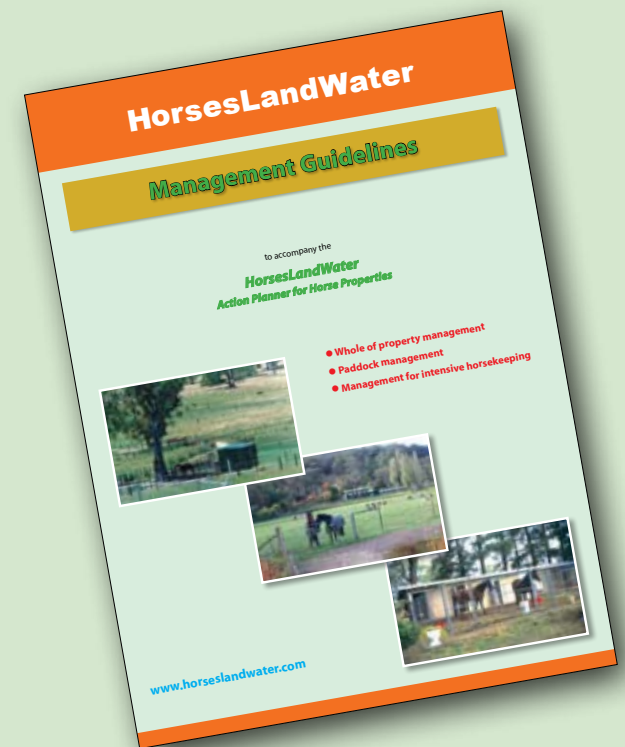
- ✓ Save on feed costs – check out the soil and pasture.
- ✓ Save on vet bills – check out the toxic weeds.
- ✓ Save on saddlery visits for first aid products – reduce or eliminate dust and mud which saves on eye, hoof, heel and respiratory problems.

Keep your horse looking and feeling good through provision of shelter, clean water and sound pasture or stableyard systems.

[www.horseslandwater.com](http://www.horseslandwater.com)

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# How healthy is your horse property?





## Try out the Action Planner in relation to the horse property or agistment site you are associated with today!

Horsekeepers in SA, in partnership with government agencies, have agreed on 27 key points to maintaining an environmentally-sustainable horsekeeping property.

Use the Planner to identify which management topics will help you make improvement on your horse property; then look at the corresponding topics in the Management Guidelines to help you develop workable action plans.

## Checklist

Does your horse property or agistment site:-

- Have good pasture cover all year? (i.e. no bare soil is visible)
- Have a weed management program in place?
- Restrict horse access to creeks, dams and other watercourses?
- Have a manure management program?
- Take action to eliminate or reduce dust and mud in paddocks, stableyards and work areas?

If you answer no to any of these questions, there may be opportunities to improve the health of your horses through better land management practices on your property or agistment site.

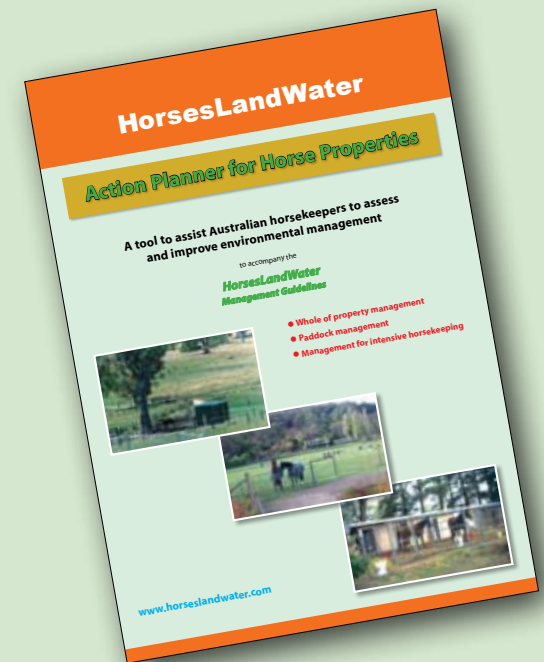
The **Horses, Land and Water Action Planner** and **Management Guidelines** can help you identify and prioritise opportunities for land management improvements.

## The Horses Land and Water Community of Practice

The [www.horseslandwater.com.au](http://www.horseslandwater.com.au) website is dedicated to people who care about the health of their horses and of the land their horses live on. A Community of Practice is a group of like-minded people who share information about a set range of topics, in this case, horsekeeping and good land management practices.

This Community of Practice uses four key ways to engage horse owners and horse property managers with each other to share collective knowledge and experiences:

- a website featuring the Action Planner,
- workshops and field trips relating to managing horse properties,
- direction to information resources (free or purchase), and
- links to mentors and peers through an email discussion group.



## HorsesLandWater Action Planner for Horse Properties

A tool to assist horsekeepers assess and improve environmental management

## HorsesLandWater Management Guidelines

Practical information to accompany the Action Planner

- **Whole of property management**
  - **Paddock management**
  - **Management for intensive horsekeeping**

Available now at [www.horseslandwater.com](http://www.horseslandwater.com)

... or hard copy (ring for details)