

## GREETINGS LANDCARERS

We hope you are all settling into spring, even though the weather is a bit Un Australian with La nina here again this summer.

Temperatures are still cool and comfortable, although we could certainly do with some sunshine!

Good time to add extra mulch and plant summer vegetables.

With high soil moisture and predicted wet spring / summer, it is also a good time to plant trees.

If you are looking for informative events there is plenty happening throughout the region. Check out the events section on page on 13 - 18.



*Banksia repens* R.Merdith

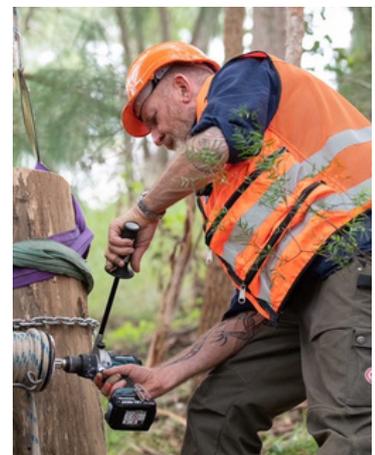
# MOOIBAL SPUR RIVER TO RIDGE ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST PROJECT

The Mooibal Spur Environmental Trust River to Ridge project is now complete.

Thank you to the team at Bushland Restoration Services for restoring old growth Bruhsbox forests along the narrow ridgeline. These old trees have a plethora of much sought after natural hollows of various sizes of which most if not all are being used by hollow dwelling animals. The removal of woody weeds has liberated a population of critically endangered native guava *Rhodomyrtus psidioides* and thousands of native plants have been planted throughout the project, of which a mass planting of Kangaroo Grass *Themeda triandra* and Koala food trees further along the ridgeline to enhance the wildlife corridor.

Thank you to Wildbnb for installing a wide range of nest boxes for various species all of which are being inhabited by various wildlife such as: Gallah, Barn Owl, Sugar Glider, Eastern Rosella, Micro bats, Brush tail possum, Wood ducks and Yellow tail cockatoos.

The project included starting up the Tallowood Ridge Locality Landcare group, community plantings, weed ID workshops, spotlighting, community working bees and flood erosion remediation. Information signs were installed to help protect koalas from car strike and information signs erected below the Gathering tree in Tallowood Ridge Estate and at the entrance to the Mooibal Spur walking track.



River to Ridge Mooibal Spur project is funded by the NSW Government Environmental Trust



## 2021 BYRON COAST KOALA MONITORING

The aim of the 2021 Byron Coast Koala Monitoring Project was to monitor 63 survey sites on private and public land in the Byron Shire using the Spot Analysis Technique (SAT). Koala activity, occupancy, and historical records were compared to determine trends over the last 10 years/ 3 survey events. SAT surveys were conducted between April - November 2021 by Council staff and other ecologists.

Fifty-eight field sites at 1,000 m intervals were completed.

The number of koala records rose steeply after 2011 and have remained relatively constant since, hovering between 700 and 900 records each year. Koala records are primarily concentrated in residential areas such as Byron Bay – Broken Head, Ewingsdale, Tyagarah, Bangalow, Byron hinterland villages and along major roads. There are significantly more koala records in the southern half of the Byron Shire than in the north.

This survey showed our koalas are still hanging in there! In 2021, there was the highest record of sites occupied by koalas in a 10-year period, although, the percentage of sites with 'high activity' levels declined by 44%. This could indicate a reduced population.

In 2021, koala occupancy showed its biggest uptake in the south (Byron Bay - Broken Head), its biggest reduction in the centre (Mullumbimby – Brunswick Heads – Tyagarah) and showed very little change in the north.

Long term, regular monitoring using new technologies will be highly valuable in managing koalas. More data will give us a better picture of trends; thus, we strive to increase our survey efforts by monitoring every 2-3 years. We aim to increase the number of sites from 63 to 80, including habitat restoration areas, and using technologies such as sound meters to determine koala occupancy.

We are very fortunate to have a community that is engaged in koala issues, both in planting and restoring koala habitat, and recording koala sightings to Friends of the Koala.

**Planted sclerophyll forests have been found to be effective supplementary habitat for koalas as soon as 3-5 years after planting... so keep on planting!**

Thank you for caring for our koalas.

If you'd like any more information about the study or about what you can do restore koala habitat on your property, contact Koala Projects Officer Caitlin Weatherstone at Byron Shire Council at [cweatherstone@byron.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cweatherstone@byron.nsw.gov.au)



Photo credit Kirk Scarborough

## HELPING NATURE REBUILD THE DUNES AT BYRON BAY

Work is about to start on helping nature rebuild the eroded sand dunes between Main Beach and Clarkes Beach at Byron Bay.

During November two diggers will be working on the beach for approximately seven days, moving sand from the tidal zone and rebuilding the sand dunes in the area between the Byron Bay Surf Club and the Beach Byron Café at Clarkes Beach.

It's a process called 'nature assisted beach enhancement' or more commonly, 'beach scraping' or 'sand harvesting', and it's a proven, low-risk, cost-effective management strategy to rebuild dunes that have been damaged by erosion.

Chloe Dowsett, Council's Coast and Biodiversity Coordinator said the aim is to take some of the sand that has returned to the beach and move it to the dune area where it will be fenced and planted with vegetation.

"Locals will have noticed the large amount of sand that has built up in the bay area and over many, many months, waves and wind will eventually push this sand up the beach to reform the dunes," Ms Dowsett said.

"We are planning to help fast-track this natural process by using machinery to move the sand further up the beach," she said.

"This will not only mean an immediate positive impact on the dune profile between Main Beach and Clarkes Beach but because the tidal area will be flatter, sand should continue to build up at a faster rate.

"We are helping what is a natural process and this work is scientifically regarded as having minimal environmental impact both on the beach and marine environments, and on neighbouring beaches," Ms Dowsett said.

"It will also help protect the dunes from future weather events, create dune habitat for plants and animals and help in protecting cultural objects that may be buried within the dune system," she said.

A 'Review of Environmental Factors' has been completed and approvals are pending from DPI-Fisheries/Marine Parks.

Council has been consulting, for many months, with relevant land managers, public authorities, key groups, and Traditional Owners about the project.

Once the sand is in place the dunes will be planted with native species that are appropriate for the area, focussing on fast growing ground cover species such as Spinifex and Beach Bean.

To protect the dunes and the vegetation, the area will be fenced and access paths to the beach will be repaired.

Council has previously done beach scraping projects in the north of the Shire at New Brighton and South Golden Beaches.

"We last scraped those beaches in 2017 and the dunes there are in very good condition with a terrific covering of native vegetation," Ms Dowsett said.

"This project is a positive environmental rehabilitation project aiming to improve dune habitat, public safety, access and beach amenity" she said.

The \$170,00 project jointly funded by Council and a grant from the State Government through the Coastal and Estuary Grants Program.

# OPPORTUNITY FOR LOCAL ARTISTS TO EXPLORE ADAPTATION AND CLIMATE CHANGE WITH THE COMMUNITY

Opportunity for local artists to explore adaptation and climate change with the community

Byron Shire Council is calling for expressions of interest from local artists to explore the theme of adaptation and climate change with the community and present new works for a month-long exhibition at the Lone Goat Gallery mid-2023.

The inaugural theme of this biennial project is Adaptation – an act or process of change to become better suited to an environment or situation and it's part of a new creative partnership between the Lone Goat Gallery and Byron Shire Council called Climate Conversations.

The successful artist will be paid a \$5000 fee to complete the project with additional funding to run events that engage the community such as workshops, talks, community clean-ups and other events.

Artists can submit an Expression of Interest (Eoi) on Council's website or at [www.lonegoatgallery.com](http://www.lonegoatgallery.com) and applications close on 30 November 2022. An industry-led panel of judges will announce the selected artist on 10 December 2022.

"Artists are encouraged to consider ways their project can engage with the community through creative collaboration and activities that generate conversations in the community," Council's Sustainability Team Leader, Julia Adams said.

"It has been a tough few years for our community which is why we think it's important to reflect on our recent experiences and what adaptation means to us all now."

"Artists are well-placed to engage communities in innovative ways, to challenge behaviours and help us reimagine new futures."

"The project will take place in the beautiful Lone Goat Gallery in Byron Bay and the community will be invited to take part in the process and view the final outcome," Ms Adams said.

The Eoi is open to all Northern Rivers' artists, art producers and artist teams and we encourage anyone interested in this opportunity to apply via Council's website or at [www.lonegoatgallery.com](http://www.lonegoatgallery.com)

For further details contact Council's Sustainability Team Leader Julia Adams on 6626 7295 or Lone Goat Gallery, Gallerist, Sarah Harvey on 0437 171 062.

# THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY HAS ENGAGED CSIRO TO UNDERTAKE A PROJECT TO UNDERSTAND FLOOD RISK FACTORS IN THE NORTHERN RIVERS REGION OF NSW AND IDENTIFY FLOOD MITIGATION OPTIONS.

Want to have your say on the CSIRO flood mitigation project? Council have let us know about this opportunity.

There are two drop in sessions:

**2 November at the Ocean Shores Country Club**

**3 November at the Mullumbimby Ex Services Club.**

You need to register for one of the stakeholder sessions on this website, Northern Rivers Resilience Initiative - CSIRO. There are also some FAQs on the website.

"Stakeholders from the seven flood-affected local government areas in the region have also been consulted to seek their views regarding identified and prioritised existing flood mitigation project proposals. We also want to listen to your views and feedback. You are invited to drop in and meet with a project team member to review the preliminary results of the flood mitigation and resilience project prioritisation and discuss your views about what measures or criteria are important to you and your community and should be used to assess the identified flood mitigation project ideas and proposals."

Hit the link to find out more and register in your locality.

<https://www.csiro.au/en/research/natural-disasters/floods/Northern-NSW-Resilience-Initiative>



## PUTTING BINS IN THE OCEAN MAKES SENSE

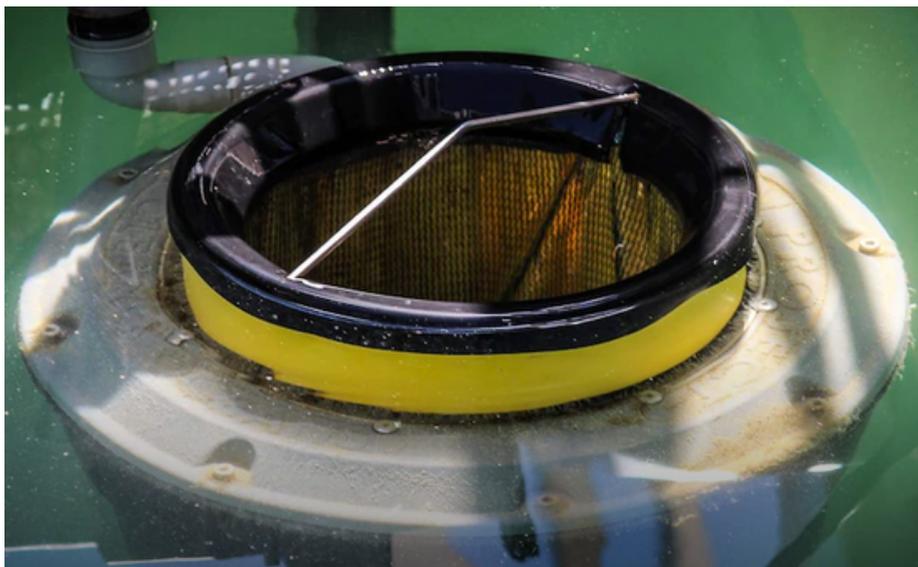
ABC BROADCAST FRI 14 OCT 2022

After becoming frustrated at the amount of debris they were seeing floating in the ocean Perth surfers Pete Ceglinski and Andrew Turton invented a bin which sucks in water and catches rubbish.

The Seabin Project started in 2016 and they can now be found in 53 countries around the world.

Recently the project took another step forward with the launch of the world's first Seabin Ocean Health Lab in Sydney to analyse some of the rubbish that has been scooped up.

Click on the link below to listen to the broadcast.



<https://www.abc.net.au/perth/programs/breakfast/seabins-are-removing-rubbish-from-the-ocean-around-the-world/101536126>

## FAMILY'S CONSERVATION AND VOLUNTEERING ROAD TRIP GOES 'BEYOND A HOLIDAY'

ABC Alice Springs By Emma Haskin

Brisbane-based marine biologists Shane Preston and Fernanda Marcondes de Faria are on a year-long adventure around Australia with their sons Rory, 7, and Luca, 5.

The family's environmental philosophy is helping them determine where they want to visit and more importantly, how they can help through volunteering for environmental conservation projects.

The family have so far passed through Queensland and Northern Territory, working on weed eradication on K'Gari (Fraser Island), learning low-impact farming methods, and collecting marine debris at Redcliffe.



<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-10-08/faria-preston-family-road-trip-in-conservation-and-volunteering/101508288>

## FLEAY'S BARRED FROGS FIGHT OFF RENOWNED DEADLY FUNGUS IN NSW AND QUEENSLAND

ABC Coffs Coast By Indiana Hansen and Luke Ryan

An endangered Australian frog species has begun to naturally fight off a deadly fungus that is killing frog populations around the world.

Scientists at Southern Cross University found Fleay's barred frogs in northern New South Wales and south-east Queensland had developed a natural resistance to the amphibian chytrid fungus.

Senior lecturer David Newell said the resistance was new.

"This frog was one of those species initially impacted by this fungus and some 30 years on we've now seen a natural immune response," he said.

Dr Newell said there was a chance the development would be useful in helping other frogs join the fight against the pathogen that had already wiped out seven native relatives and hundreds more globally.

"We can look at how the [Fleay's barred] frog has developed an immune response and [whether] there is a genetic marker," Dr Newell said.

"And we can look at trying to improve the health of other more critically endangered populations in other parts of the world."

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-10-06/native-frog-species-fights-deadly-fungus-nsw-qld/101503242>



Scientists might be able to slow the spread of a deadly fungus killing native frogs across the country.  
(Supplied: David Newell)

# THE PEREGRINE FALCON'S 'REMARKABLE' RESURGENCE COMING BACK FROM NEAR EXTINCTION

By Ethan Rix

The peregrine falcon looks set to hit another milestone in its unlikely comeback from the brink of extinction.

The bird of prey is the fastest animal on the planet and its 'rare' conservation status is currently under review in South Australia.

Experts predict that status will be changed, making it the last state in the country to list the species population as 'secure'.

After decades of pesticide poisoning and persecution, the resurgence of the native bird has been described as "nothing short of remarkable".

Field ornithologist, Ian Falkenberg — who has been documenting peregrines for 40 years — said research on the peregrine's population helped Australia avert a "major environmental crisis".

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-10-03/sa-peregrine-falcons-resurgence/101494554>



Pesticides commonly used by farmers in the 1960s and 1980s almost nearly pushed peregrine falcons into extinction.(Supplied: Ofer Levy)



A peregrine falcon perched on the ABC Adelaide building in Collinswood. (ABC News: Che Chorley)

## **DNA REFERENCE LIBRARY A GAME-CHANGER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING**

**CSIRO IS BUILDING A NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY DNA LIBRARY WHICH AIMS TO DELIVER A COMPLETE COLLECTION OF DNA REFERENCE SEQUENCES FOR ALL KNOWN AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL AND PLANT SPECIES.**

Andrea Wild

The National Biodiversity DNA Library (NBDL) aims to create a complete collection of DNA reference sequences for all known Australian animal and plant species. Just like COVID wastewater testing, it will enable DNA detected in the environment to be assigned to the species to which it belongs.

CSIRO Director of the NBDL Jenny Giles said environmental DNA (eDNA) analysis has the potential to create a revolution in biodiversity monitoring.

Monitoring biodiversity and detecting pests is extremely important, but it's hard to do and is expensive in a country as large as Australia.

<https://www.csiro.au/news/News-releases/2022/DNA-reference-library-a-game-changer-for-environmental-monitoring>



Sea lion (*Neophoca cinerea*). PHOTO: Minderoo OceanOmics Centre

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## **CSIRO ON A MISSION TO CHART AUSTRALIA'S LOW EMISSIONS FUTURE CSIRO, HAS LAUNCHED A \$90 MILLION MISSION DESIGNED TO HELP AUSTRALIA'S REGIONS AND HARD-TO-ABATE INDUSTRIES TRANSFORM AND ACCELERATE TOWARDS A LOW EMISSIONS ECONOMY.**

Nick Kachel

The Towards Net Zero Mission will help Australia respond to the multiple challenges facing our regions as we work to achieve our net zero ambitions and will:

- Support a profitable and sustainable agriculture industry in a low emissions world;
- Identify what is required to develop new low emissions steel and iron ore processes;
- Identify what is required to develop sustainable aviation fuel to support our aviation sector;
- Help regions navigate the transition to net zero through new collaborations, analysis, and support; and
- Expand Australia's carbon offset capacity by using and scaling negative emission technologies such as carbon sequestration.

<https://www.csiro.au/en/news/news-releases/2022/csiro-on-a-mission-to-chart-australias-low-emissions-future>



# REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE

## FARMERS ARE GETTING RENEWABLE STANDALONE POWER SYSTEMS AS WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S REGIONAL POWER GRID IS DISMANTLED

By James Purtill for WHO'S GONNA SAVE US? Triple J Hack

In Western Australia, an ambitious project to take thousands of farms and properties off-grid is slowly taking shape.

Electricity poles are being cut down and carted away. Thousands of kilometres of overhead wiring are being rolled up.

The vast and expensive state-owned network that crisscrosses the wheat and canola fields, bringing electric light and power to remote farmhouses, is being partly dismantled.

In its place are what are essentially beefed-up farming versions of the standard suburban rooftop solar and battery systems.

Each "Standalone Power System" (SPS) is a fairly simple piece of technology, but the cumulative effect of the planned rollout will be enormous: 23,000km of wire will be taken down, or enough to string a power line around mainland Australia.

According to Western Power, no other network operator has embraced off-grid power on this scale, anywhere in the world.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-10-02/thousands-of-renewable-standalone-power-systems-to-be-rolled-out/101479136>



# FROM BEACHES TO BURPS: NATIVE AUSTRALIAN SEAWEED KEY TO REDUCING METHANE EMISSIONS FROM COWS

Dept Climate change, energy, environment and water

Australian scientists have found that a genus of seaweed native to Australian coastal waters could provide a global solution to methane emissions from livestock.

Scientists at CSIRO have developed a cost-effective patented feed ingredient. A newly established company, FutureFeed, is taking it to the commercial market.

FutureFeed's solution uses a specific type of red seaweed ('Asparagopsis') that massively reduces methane emissions. Studies have also suggested increased growth in cattle and sheep.

Methane from livestock burps and farts is a greenhouse gas 28 times more powerful than carbon dioxide. Direct livestock emissions account for around 10% of Australia's greenhouse gas emissions. Feedlot trials in beef cattle using less than 1% of FutureFeed's Asparagopsis showed a reduction in methane production of more than 95%.

The potential climate impacts from this product are unprecedented. If just 10% of global livestock producers adopted FutureFeed as a feed ingredient, it would be like taking 100 million cars off the world's roads.

A number of groups worldwide are currently establishing commercial-scale production of Asparagopsis. Researchers are growing the seaweed on open water line culture and in ponds in Australia, New Zealand, the USA and Ireland.

[From beaches to burps: native Australian seaweed key to reducing methane emissions from cows - DCCEEW](#)



Australian scientists have found that a native Australian seaweed could provide a global solution to methane emissions from livestock. Image credit: CSIRO

# TAIWAN IS TRANSFORMING UNUSED METRO STATIONS INTO UNDERGROUND VERTICAL FARMS

By Jeremy Robson with AFP

Taiwan is using vacant metro spaces to grow highly in demand, sustainable, clean and organic food. Advanced and efficient vertical farming methods are being harnessed to help feed commuters with fresh produce.

Located at capital city Taipei's Nanjing-Fushing Station, the 40 square-metre 'Metro Fresh' hydroponic farm grows lettuce under LED lighting in a sterile environment to eliminate the use of pesticides and herbicides.

Are smart farms better than normal farms?

Smart farms are less labor intensive and use technology to increase yields and mitigate weather fluctuations.

"Right now our production yield is about 180 bags of lettuce, each bag is 200 grams. We can produce 180 bags of lettuce each week," says Winnie Chan, deputy manager at Unimicron Plant Technology.

Taiwan has a population of 23.57 million people and a surface area of only 36,197 km<sup>2</sup>. This means that being able to use space as efficiently as possible is crucial for the nation's growth and self-sufficiency.

<https://www.euronews.com/green/2022/10/05/taiwan-is-transforming-unused-metro-stations-into-underground-vertical-farms>



# EVENTS AND SEMINARS

## SOIL: THE UNTOLD STORY OF THIS UNDERRATED SUPERHERO



Thursday, 10 November 2022 \$38pp

2:30pm - 4:30pm

The Farm Byron Bay 11 Ewingsdale Road  
Ewingsdale, NSW, 2481 Australia

Do we really give enough thought to the thing that lets us grow? To soil, in all its wonder? Are we squandering this precious, and essentially finite resource that provides us with pretty much all the food that we eat?

Join us as chef, Gourmet Farmer and author of SOIL, Matthew Evans, takes us on a journey into the wonder of the underland. From soil's role in providing nutrient dense food, to its role in gut health, brain health, planetary health and more - such as why good soil matters to the taste of food - Matthew will unearth things you never knew about the ground beneath your feet and the food on your plate. Following the talk, you'll be guided on a walk through our growers collective, to celebrate first-hand this magic bit of earth and how your local food is grown.

Afternoon tea and complimentary drinks will be provided by Three Blue Ducks.

About the presenter

Matthew Evans is a Tasmanian food writer, television broadcaster and chef who lives and works on Fat Pig Farm, a soil-to-stomach regenerative farm and restaurant. He's been the host of six series of Gourmet Farmer, and two documentaries on SBS TV. Matthew is the author of over a dozen books on food, including On Eating Meat, and his latest cookbook, the updated and revised The Real Food Companion. His book SOIL is a hymn to the remarkable, and under appreciated bit of Earth that gifts us life.

\*\* Proceeds from tickets to this event will be donated to Northern Rivers Community Fund (NRCF), and distributed to local, regenerative farming initiatives.

<https://thefarm.com.au/adult-workshops/2022/11/10/soil-the-untold-story-of-this-underrated-superhero>



# THE CENTRE FOR VOLUNTEERING IS OFFERING COURSES

## Writing Successful Grant Applications

Each year millions of dollars are given to not-for-profits, community groups and clubs through local and government grants. So what's the trick to ensuring you are a lucky recipient? Join this 1.5-hour information session to discuss developing relationships or partnerships with others, recognising your volunteers' skills and understanding how to break down what funders require. FREE 26 October, 12:30-2:00pm

## Inclusive Volunteering

Is your volunteer-involving organisation inclusive? What does it mean to be inclusive and how can you reduce the barriers to inclusion? Join this free session for individuals and organisations to explore how to increase inclusion and harness the positive outcomes of this. FREE 10 November, 10-11.15am, 13 December, 12-1.15pm

## Good Governance for Not-for-profit Organisations

Hall & Wilcox will provide an overview of some of the key aspects of good governance for not-for-profit organisations. They will discuss a broad ambit of good governance considerations, including the importance of good governance itself, Board structures, compositions and processes, ACNC governance standards, duties imposed on charities and their responsible persons, and the relevance of the Corporations Act. FREE 17 November, 12:30-2:30pm

<https://mailchi.mp/volunteering/pd-672183?e=d0ba79f7c4>



## **ANCIENT FORESTS IN THE MODERN WORLD WITH ROB KOOYUM AT WILSONS CREEK HALL**

Dr Rob Kooyman will speak on the unique values of our local rainforests and talk about some of the challenges ahead.

Fires, floods and slips of the last 3 years have impacted our unique forests and species, some of which have histories going back for tens of millions of years.

We have had similar sessions before in evening timeslots that may not suit everyone.

Here is another chance and an update for those who have attended previously.

**1.30 pm at Wilsons Creek Hall, Sunday 23 October**

Please pass to anyone who might not receive these emails.

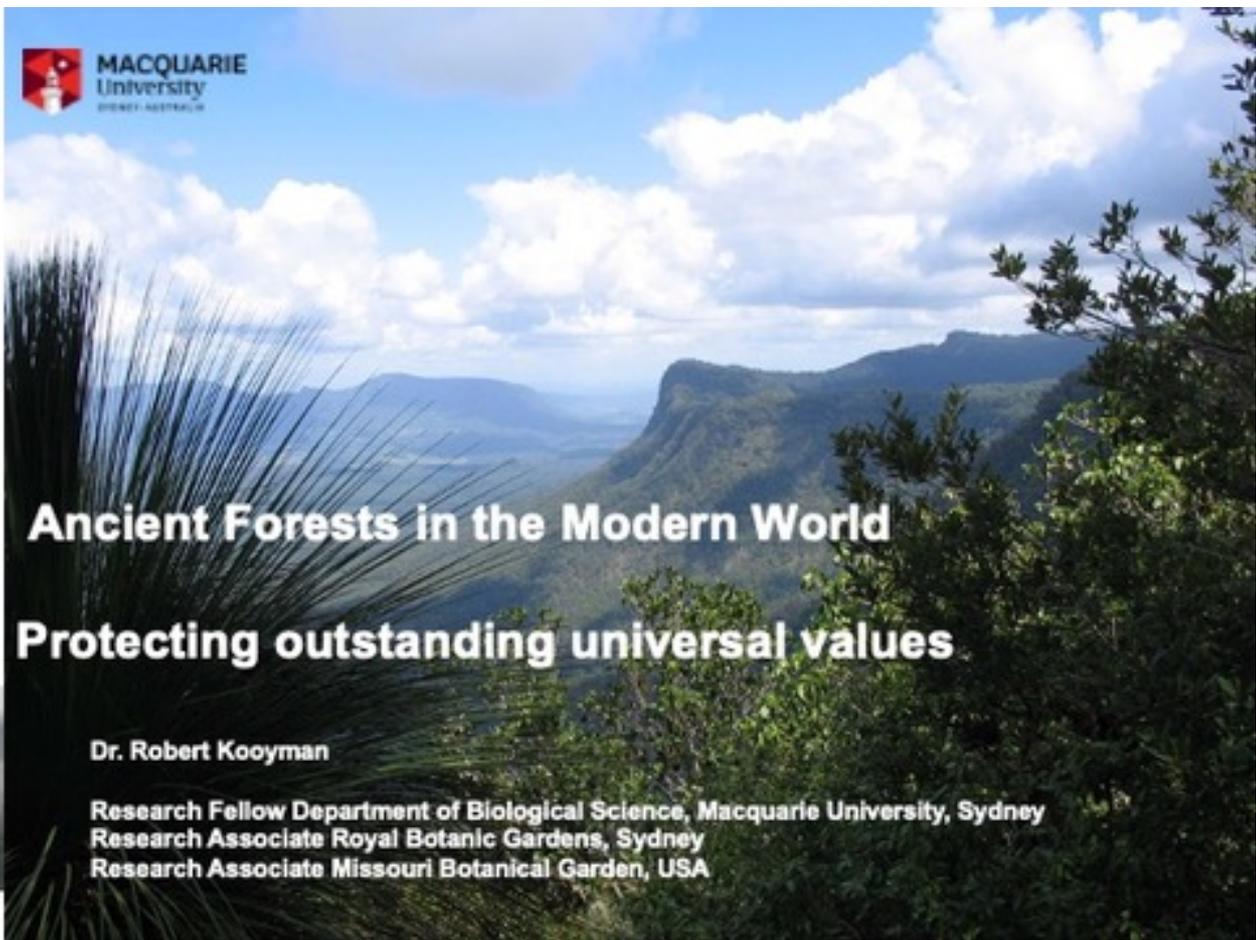
Sunday is market day.

Consider coming early for market and lunch.

**Entry by donation (cash please)**

**Info 66840378**

Thanks to all and hope to see you there.



 **MACQUARIE**  
University  
SYDNEY AUSTRALIA

**Ancient Forests in the Modern World**

**Protecting outstanding universal values**

**Dr. Robert Kooyman**

Research Fellow Department of Biological Science, Macquarie University, Sydney  
Research Associate Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney  
Research Associate Missouri Botanical Garden, USA





## Big Scrub Rainforest Day 2022

Big Scrub Landcare, in association with Rous County Council, has announced the return of **Big Scrub Rainforest Day at Rocky Creek Dam on Sunday, 30 October 2022.**

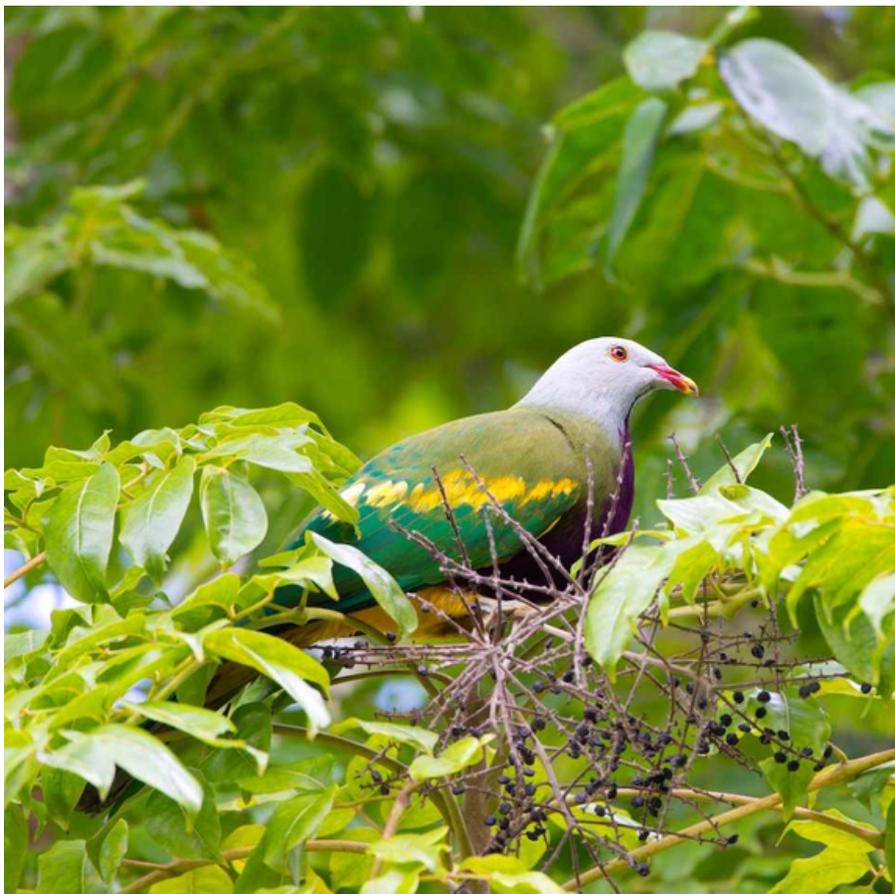
This year's theme is **'Reconnecting community, healing ecosystems'** and includes a series of rainforest-related presentations, workshops, walks, interactive displays, nature-based children's activities and a community planting of 1,000 rainforest trees.

### Event details:

Big Scrub Rainforest Day at Rocky Creek Dam  
Sunday, 30 October 2022 - 8.30am to 3.00pm

There will be coffee and limited food options available (Lions Club BBQ and coffee vans only). The full program will be available on the Big Scrub Landcare website.

<https://www.bigscrubrainforest.org/>



HELP US BUILD THE NORTHERN RIVERS WILDLIFE HOSPITAL!

Our region is home to a large number of wildlife who are effected by natural disasters too. Let's look after them. Join us for this special information event and fundraiser.



# BUILD FROM THE HEART FUNDRAISER



NOVEMBER 3, 2022 | 6 PM TO 8 PM  
HOTEL METROPOLE, LISMORE

**RSVP OCTOBER 19, [INFO@NRWH.COM.AU](mailto:INFO@NRWH.COM.AU)**  
**RAFFLE + PRIZES TO BE WON!**



Australian Government



NSW  
GOVERNMENT



NRCF



WWF

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY  
**REGENERATE  
AUSTRALIA**



HOTEL  
METROPOLE  
EST. 1903

## BYRON BIRD BUDDIES

**Sunday 23rd October**- Guided walk at the Byron Wetlands and Presentation on Shorebirds of the Northern Rivers. Meet at the inside carpark 9am. People without a key meet at the gate 8.45am. – Morning tea provided. - Numbers limited so book early. [byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com](mailto:byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com)

### **Aussie bird count**

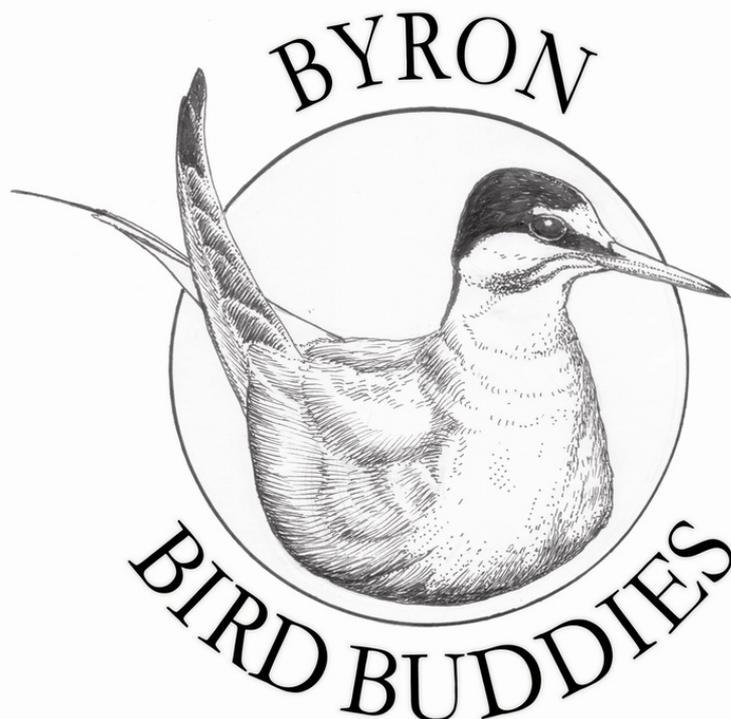
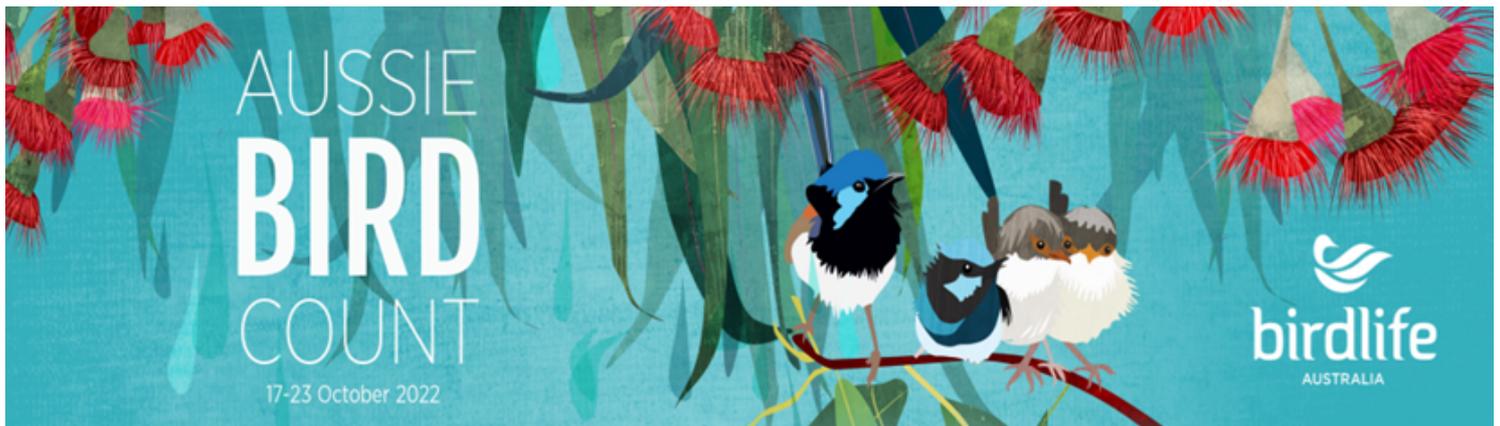
Do your own thing during Bird Week - its fun. All over Australia, Birdlife Australia, encourage everyone to do a 20 minute bird survey from you own backyard or your favorite bit of bush - You can do it as many of times a day or just once in the week – it's up to you.

**Register to participate <http://www.aussiebirdcount.org.au/>**

**Tuesday 25th October** - Moobal NP – details to be confirmed

**Wednesday 26th October**- Durrumbul – private property details to be confirmed

**Sunday 30th October** Big Scrub Day – offers of help on day will be gratefully accepted BBB – Stall and guided bird walk



# FUNDING

## NEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY!



### **Biosecurity Business Grants - Round 2**

The Biosecurity Business Grants - Round 2 grant opportunity is being provided by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

The Australian Government is inviting applications from Indigenous businesses, Indigenous organisations or other organisations supporting Indigenous businesses, to apply for a grant under Round 2 of the Biosecurity Business Grants program.

The Biosecurity Business Grants program is running over 3 years from 2020–21 to 2022–23 and delivered through the Indigenous Rangers Biosecurity Program.

**Applications are now open and close 9:00 pm AEDT on Monday 14 November 2022.**

Applicants who applied in Round 1, may also apply in Round 2.

Find out more on GrantConnect

Current Grant Opportunity View - GO5781: GrantConnect ([grants.gov.au](https://grants.gov.au))



# WEED OF THE MONTH

## *Ochna serrulata* Mickey Mouse Plant

*Ochna Serrulata* also known as *Ochna* or Mickey Mouse plant is extremely hardy and invasive species. This woody weed is the bane of bush regenerators as it is time consuming and tedious to treat using chemicals or not.

The woody tap root is very long, almost as long as the above ground parts with a clever 's' bend kink in the root.

The root easily snaps when hand pulling and regrows readily from the snapped point.

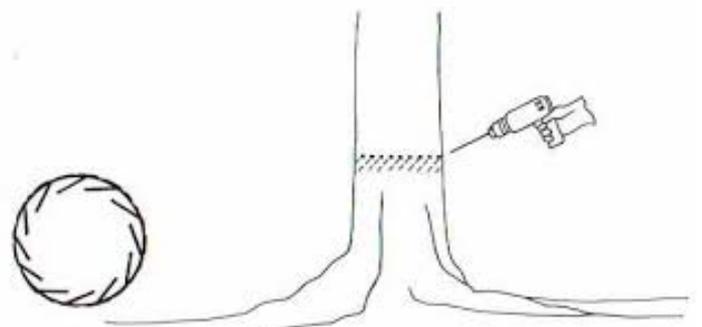
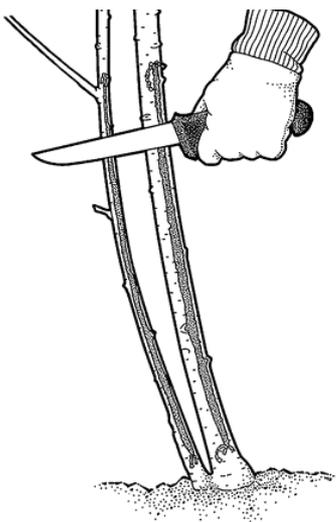
This weed is resistant to glyphosate alone and requires careful and thorough treatment. Treatment involves scraping the stem from as low to the roots as you can all the way to the tips on both sides of the plant with 1:1 Glyphosate + 1 gram metsulfuron methyl / L, stem inject larger specimens, cut and drill down into the tap root and inject using above mix.

Chemical free options include using a tree popper when there is adequate soil moisture after rain.

*Ochna* produces yellow flowers in spring summer followed by 5 red sepals which surround a black berry with a hard centre that passes through the digestive tracts of birds and is readily dispersed in bushland. Also spreads through dumping of garden waste in bushland reserves.

If you have this plant in your garden remove it or at least dispose of the berries before the birds get to it.

<https://weeds.brisbane.qld.gov.au/weeds/ochna>



# WORKING BEES

-Why not get out and get involved in one of our local groups?

For all Landcare Working Bees please wear protective clothing - long pants, long-sleeved shirt, closed-in shoes, hat, gloves and bring water, sunscreen, and insect repellent. Please always contact the group co-ordinators before attending a working bee as plans do change!

Bangalow Land and Rivercare, Bangalow

WHEN: every Saturday 8:30am

WHERE: find out from

CONTACT: Noelene Plummer [bangalowlandcare@gmail.com](mailto:bangalowlandcare@gmail.com) 0431200638 66874470

Green and Clean Awareness Team, Byron Bay

WHEN: 3rd Sunday of the month 9:00am

WHERE: Meet Main Beach, Byron Bay

CONTACT: Peter Farmakis [peter.farmakis@gmail.com](mailto:peter.farmakis@gmail.com) 0488 715 565

Heritage Park Landcare, Mullumbimby

WHEN: Saturdays 9:00am – 11:00 am

WHERE: Heritage Park, Mullumbimby

CONTACT: Diana Hughes [bromspot@gmail.com](mailto:bromspot@gmail.com)

Jinangong Landcare, Ocean Shores

WHEN: 1st Sunday of the month

WHERE: The Tunnel Road, Ocean Shores

CONTACT: Ian Parer [ianparer@hotmail.com](mailto:ianparer@hotmail.com)

Mullum Town Landcare, Mullumbimby

WHEN: last Sunday of the month

WHERE: find out from John Tann

CONTACT: John Tann [johntann99@gmail.com](mailto:johntann99@gmail.com)

Ocean Shores Landcare, Ocean Shores

WHEN: each Friday at 8.30 – 11.00 am (8.00am DST)

WHERE: corner of Yallakool Drive and Warrambool Road, Ocean Shores

CONTACT: David Kemp [dnkemp77@gmail.com](mailto:dnkemp77@gmail.com) 0427 650 861

Tallowood Ridge Locality Landcare, Tallowood Ridge Mullumbimby

WHEN: Second Saturday of the month from 3pm (winter), 4pm (summer).

WHERE: Gathering Tree Pocket Park, Cockatoo Cres Tallowood Ridge Estate

CONTACT: Joanne McMurtry [jmcmurtry@bigpond.com](mailto:jmcmurtry@bigpond.com)

South New Brighton Dunecare

WHEN: 1st Friday of the month 1:30pm - 4:30pm

WHERE: Meet at southern end of the Esplanade at the Strand beach access point.

CONTACT: Robyn Bolden [robyn.bolden@optusnet.com.au](mailto:robyn.bolden@optusnet.com.au) 6680 1970

Suffolk Park Dunecare

WHEN: 1st Saturday of the month

CONTACT: Helen Brown [hellyh@bigpond.com](mailto:hellyh@bigpond.com) 6685 4964

Tyagarah Landcare

WHEN: Each Thursday 9:00am – 11:00am

WHERE: 23 Prestons Lane, Tyagarah

CONTACT: Bela Allen [bela\\_allen@yahoo.com](mailto:bela_allen@yahoo.com) 6684 7113

Can't find a group near you? We have many other groups who meet on an ad hoc basis (contact us for more details) or if there isn't an existing group in your neighbourhood or you are interested in looking after a particular area, BVL can help you to form a locality group under the BVL umbrella.

# LINKS

- Arakwal <http://arakwal.com.au/>
- Border Rangers Alliance [http://www.greasternranges.org.au/border\\_ranges/overview/overview](http://www.greasternranges.org.au/border_ranges/overview/overview)
- Bangalow Koalas <http://www.bangalowkoalas.com.au/>
- Bangalow River and Landcare <http://www.bangalowlandcare.org.au/>
- Big Scrub Landcare <https://www.bigscrubrainforest.org.au/>
- Brunswick Valley Landcare <http://www.brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au/>
- Byron Bird Buddies <http://www.byronbirdbuddies.com.au/>
- Byron Community College <http://www.byroncollege.org.au/>
- Byron Shire Council <http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/>
- EnviTE [www.envite.org.au](http://www.envite.org.au)
- Environmental Trust <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/envtrust.htm>
- Friends of the Koala [www.friendsofthekoala.org](http://www.friendsofthekoala.org)
- Federal Landcare Inc [federalandcare@gmail.com](mailto:federalandcare@gmail.com)
- Local Land Services [www.northcoast.lls.nsw.gov.au](http://www.northcoast.lls.nsw.gov.au)
- North Coast Local Land Services <http://northcoast.lls.nsw.gov.au/>
- Border Ranges Richmond Valley Landcare [www.brrvln.org.au](http://www.brrvln.org.au)
- Mullumbimby Community Gardens <http://mullumcommunitygarden.wordpress.com/>
- North Coast Nature <http://www.northcoastnature.org.au/>
- Richmond Landcare Inc. <http://www.richmondlandcare.org/>
- Rous County Council (formerly Far North Coast Weeds) <http://rous.nsw.gov.au/>
- Soilcare <http://www.soilcare.org>
- Tweed Landcare Inc. <http://www.tweedlandcare.org.au/>
- Wilson's Creek Huonbrook Landcare <http://www.wilsonscreeklandcare.mullum.com.au/>

**For information about Landcare or other natural resource issues in Byron shire please contact  
Landcare Support Officer, Alison Ratcliffe 6626 7028**

**(Mon, Tues, Wed)**

**[aratcliffe@byron.nsw.gov.au](mailto:aratcliffe@byron.nsw.gov.au)**

**Project Officer, Rochelle Merdith 6626 7201 [rmerdith@byron.nsw.gov.au](mailto:rmerdith@byron.nsw.gov.au)**

**[www.brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au](http://www.brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au)**

