




Newsletter for Landcare and Dunecare in Byron Shire

<http://www.brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au/>

 Connect on facebook

August 2015

AUGUST	22	Big Scrub Day at Art vs Science Festival, Lismore
SEPTEMBER	1-3	NSW Landcare Conference in Orange
	3	Land for Wildlife – Rainforest restoration, fire and nest boxes
OCTOBER	3-5	Brunswick Heads Sculpture Walk – Info stall and weed weaving

New project commences to extend the National Bitou Bush Containment Zone into Byron Shire



North Coast Local Land Services is pleased to announce the commencement of a project to extend the National Northern Bitou Bush Containment Zone into Byron Shire.

The three-year project will partner with Byron Shire Council, Crown Lands, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, North Coast Holiday Parks and local Landcare

groups to improve coastal zone biodiversity by reducing the density of Bitou Bush between Cape Byron and the Tweed-Byron shire boundary.

The South African shrub was widely planted between the 1940s and 60s to stabilise the dunes after sand mining. In the absence of natural enemies and with its ability to rapidly grow and set seed, Bitou Bush flourished, forming vast thickets and preventing natural regeneration. In 2000, National Bitou Bush Containment Zones were established – the northern zone to prevent the weed species from re-colonising Queensland and the southern zone to halt its spread into Victoria.

The Byron Project represents the next strategic stage in the containment of Bitou Bush and builds on the successes of neighbouring Queensland and Tweed Shire-based projects which have resulted in the eradication of Bitou Bush.

In addition to reducing the weed's density, the Project will increase the capacity and coordination of the community and land managers to control Bitou and will promote the recovery of 14 threatened species and seven endangered communities.

The Beating Byron's Bitou Bush Project is managed by North Coast Local Land Services with assistance from the New South Wales Government through its Environmental Trust Program. Questions

about the Project can be directed to Melinda Cox on 6623 3925.



**Local Land
Services**
North Coast



FUNDING

Saving our Species Partnership Grants

Funded by the [NSW Environmental Trust](#), the SoS partnership Grants program encourages partnerships between government, the community, non-government organisations and corporations to protect and conserve our most vulnerable plants and animals in NSW.



Round 2 focuses on projects targeting landscape-managed species, as identified under the SoS Program. The program is specifically designed to encourage stakeholder to join forces to help protect and conserve threatened species and applicants must form stakeholder partnerships operating as a coordinated consortium.

Individual grants of between \$300,000 and \$1,000,000 are available over 6 years, including seed funding for successful EOI applicants to develop a detailed project Business Plan. More funding and application criteria are available on the OEH website at:

www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/sospartnerships.

The program opens on **Monday 10th August 2015**. The closing date is the **28th September 2015**.



20 Million Trees Programme Grant Round 2

Round Two of the 20 Million Trees Programme invites applications from individuals, organisations and community groups such as schools, landholders and conservation groups to apply for funding of between \$20,000 and \$100,000 to plant trees in a range of urban, peri-urban and regional environments across Australia.

The Programme will support projects that involve the community in re-establishing native vegetation, provide habitat to support our threatened species, sequester carbon from the atmosphere and help to create greener spaces to improve the liveability of Australia's cities and towns. Priority for Round Two will be given to projects with positive outcomes for threatened species and threatened ecological communities listed under the EPBC Act.

To assist applicants to plan their projects, the Guidelines and other key information are available online at <http://www.nrm.gov.au/national/20-million-trees/competitive-grants-round-two>

Applications for Round 2 can be submitted from **early August** using the online form. Applications must be submitted by the closing time of 2.00pm AEST (Canberra time) **16 September 2015**.



Environmental Restoration and Rehabilitation Grants

Applications are now invited for the next round of the Environmental Trusts Restoration and Rehabilitation grants program.

The aim of the Restoration and Rehabilitation program is to facilitate projects run by community organisations and government entities working to prevent or reduce environmental degradation and pollution, restore habitats and improve the capacity of the community to protect important ecosystems and species. Grants of between \$5,000 and \$100,000 are available. Closing date is **18th September 2015**. <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/restoration.htm>



Habitat Action Grants

Angling clubs, individuals, community groups, local councils and organisations interested in rehabilitating fish habitats in freshwater and saltwater areas throughout NSW can apply for grants.

Habitat rehabilitation projects which may be funded include:

- removal or modification of barriers to fish passage
- rehabilitation of riparian lands (river banks, wetlands, mangrove forests, saltmarsh)
- re-snagging waterways with timber structure
- removal of exotic vegetation from waterways
- bank stabilisation works
- reinstatement of natural flow regimes

Applications will close at 5 pm Friday 16 October 2015.

For further information please contact the Habitat Action Grants Administrator on fish.habitat@dpi.nsw.gov.au
<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/habitat/rehabilitating/ahr-grants-program>



Stronger Communities Program

Are you a member of a local club that could benefit from funding for small capital projects?

Justin Elliot announced the Richmond Stronger Communities Grants Programme which is making \$150,000 available for small capital projects for our area. She is encouraging community groups, sporting clubs, and other local organisations to consider applying for funding. This programme will deliver funding across the Richmond electorate through small capital grants for projects that will contribute to the vibrancy and viability of our region.

Applicants will be able to apply for funding from \$5,000 up to a maximum of \$20,000, but will need to provide matching cash or in-kind funding to be eligible. Examples of potential eligible projects that organisations may wish to consider seeking funding for under this programme could include sporting facility modernisation, kitchen upgrades, and equipment purchases such as computers, furniture and fittings.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to read the Programme Guidelines and the Frequently Asked Questions, available on the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development's website – www.infrastructure.gov.au/SCP

For more information please contact **Justine Elliot MP, Federal Member for Richmond**
Phone: 07 55 234 371 **Email:** justine.elliott.mp@aph.gov.au

The Propeller Project

Propeller, an initiative from The Foundation for Young Australians, exists to celebrate and enable youth-led social change initiatives in local communities across Australia.

Quality short films tell the stories of ordinarily extraordinary young people leading social change projects and are showcased on the Propeller online platform alongside helpful tips and resources.

Propeller projects are youth-led, have a social or environmental focus, demonstrate local impact and have community networks and support.

Check out the [Propeller Project](http://www.propellerproject.com.au) website for videos of young people making stuff happen. Get inspired. Copy ideas. Start your own thing. Apply for funding. Be the Propeller.



ING Dreamstarter



Applications to participate in the next round of Dreamstarter open **August 2015**.

We're looking for projects that will create positive social impact, that are original, shareable and likely to succeed.

All successful candidates will need to run their crowdfunding campaign on StartSomeGood for 30 days from 20 October 2015 - 18 November 2015. Please consider if this timing works for your project.

If your project is successful, ING DIRECT will pledge up to 50% of the 'tipping point' of your crowdfunding campaign. It will be your responsibility to leverage your networks of supporters to crowdfund the remaining 50% in order to receive the ING DIRECT donation. Dreamstarter is not a grant program.

<https://www.campaigns.ingdirect.com.au/Dreamstarter>

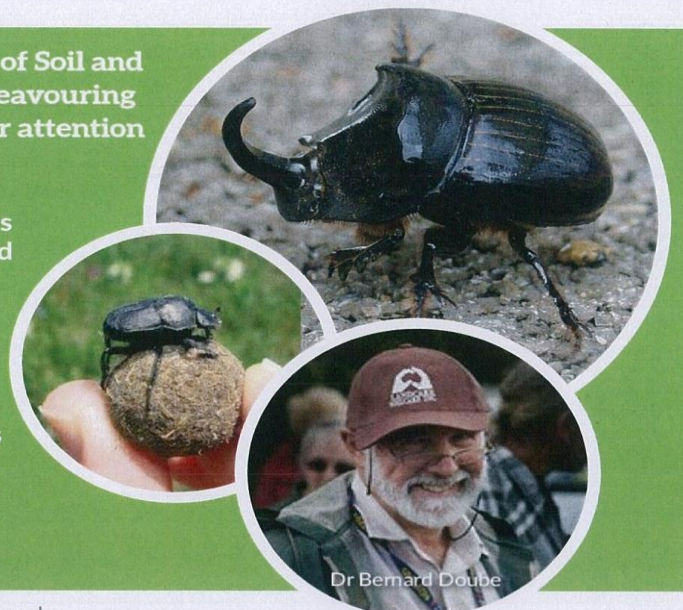
DUNG BEETLE & PASTURE PRODUCTION WORKSHOP



2015 is the International Year of Soil and Whian Whian Landcare is endeavouring to assist our soils by turning our attention to the Dung Beetle.

These little insects offer numerous benefits and have been recognised as a key player in improving soil health and increasing pasture production.

Whian Whian Landcare will be hosting Dr Bernard Doube, Director of Dung Beetle Solutions Australia and former CSIRO dung beetle specialist, for a field day to explore current knowledge and information on:



- Dung beetle identification and life cycle
- Effect of dung beetles on soil health
- Impact of dung burial on improved pasture productions and environmental health
- The role of dung beetles in biocontrol of intestinal parasites
- Monitoring of existing dung beetle species and opportunities for new species introductions

When: Sunday the 23rd of August

9am - concluding at 12 noon with free lunch

Where: Whian Whian Hall

(will include a paddock walk on a local grazing property)

THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO CATTLE GRAZERS, HORSE OWNERS AND FELLOW DUNG BEETLE ENTHUSIASTS.

Registrations are required by **17th Aug**. For more information and registrations please contact

Emma Stone (Whian Whian Landcare Secretary) on 0429693111 or Email: emstone74@yahoo.com.au



This event is supported by the Australian Government National Landcare Programme through funding from the 25th Anniversary Landcare Grants.

Land for Wildlife

Rainforest Restoration, Fire and Nest Boxes.

A field day is being held focussing on a range of issues relevant to conservation land management in Byron Shire including rainforest restoration techniques, the importance and role of fire in our bushland, and the use of nest boxes to improve habitat for wildlife.

Guest speakers include: Stuart McDonald, Andy Baker and Angus Underwood

This practical field day aims to help you better manage our amazing biodiversity. A walk through a Camphor Laurel and Lantana regeneration site led by Stuart McDonald will look at new techniques and explain the importance and timing of restoring this degraded vegetation to rainforest. This will be followed by a walk with ecologist Andy Baker focusing on the use of fire in the management of sclerophyll vegetation communities (a must see). Lunch will then be provided over a Q&A session, all while enjoying the magnificent views.

Following lunch Angus Underwood will show examples of a variety of nest boxes for different birds and arboreal mammals and give a demonstration of how and where to install them. Byron Council also has a number of nest boxes to give away to interested landholders.

Date: Thursday 3rd September

Time: 11:00 – 2:00

Location: Main Arm

Meet at Rod Palmers property – Altitude. 261 Settlement Rd Main Arm. Follow the concrete driveway up the hill all the way to the end.

Lunch will be provided. Please wear long pants, long sleeves, a hat and closed footwear

Bookings are essential

Please contact: Stuart McDonald. 0427 952 365. stumcdonald09@gmail.com



This project has been assisted by the New South Wales Government through its Environmental Trust

Wilsons Creek Huonbrook Landcare AGM 2015

Where: **Wilsons Creek Hall**

When: **Wednesday August 12th at 6.30 pm**

Official business and election of office bearers, followed by curry and then a report on our Coral Tree Project which has just successfully completed its first year of the 3 year project.

Please come and get involved in this important work, or come and catch up with other valley folk for an informative and social evening.



Big Scrub Day in partnership with the Arts vs Science Festival

This year the Arts vs Science Festival will incorporate the Big Scrub Rainforest Day and Costa will be coming to give a workshop and lead a tree planting down at Riverside Park.

A workshop with ABC *Gardening Australia* host Costa Georgiadis will be held in Lismore on **Saturday 22nd August**. He will share his unique approach on how native trees and clever design can improve your backyard and the health of our waterways. This is a free event held at the Lismore City Hall but you do need to book tickets as space is limited. Bookings can be made at

<http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/backyard-big-scrub-makeover-tickets-17931839615>

In conjunction with his visit, Rous Water and Lismore City Council are running a competition called the Backyard Big Scrub Makeover: Landscaping for Water Quality Design Competition. Lismore homeowners are invited to use their imagination to redesign their backyard to be functional and beautiful using Big Scrub rainforest plants and water quality landscaping techniques. The winner will receive \$1000 of landscaping goods



Saturday 22nd August

Lismore City Hall
10am – 4pm

In partnership with
Big Scrub
Rainforest Day

www.scu.edu.au/artsvsiencefestival
northernriverssciencehub



including plants and gravel, a \$1000 rainwater tank and the muscle of a Rous Water bush regeneration team to assist with the backyard makeover.

For more information about the Arts vs Science Festival visit the [Arts Vs Science](#) page on the SCU website. This is a joint project between Rous Water, Lismore City Council and the Northern Rivers Science Hub.



Entries for the Landscaping for Water Quality Design Competition close on Tuesday 11 September 2015. For guidelines and entry forms visit the [Rous Water](#) website or go to Lismore City Council's [Backyard Big Scrub Makeover](#) page.

Carramar Park

Brunswick Valley Landcare would like to welcome our newest locality group – Carramar Park in Ocean Shores. A group of local residents have got together with the support of Council to rehabilitate the reserve that their properties back onto.

To get involved please contact Jan Dawkins on 0417 856 239 or email janandclint@bigpond.com





Grazing on Small Farms in Byron Shire

Brunswick Valley Landcare Inc.
Sustainable grazing on small farms:
farmers teaching farmers



Grazing on Small Farms in Byron Shire

Sustainable grazing on small farms: farmers teaching farmers

Wendy's booklet on farms in the Byron Shire is now available in hard copy from the council offices, libraries and the rural co-op in Mullumbimby. It is also available to download from our website.

<http://brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Final-Farm-Book-BVL-low-res-new-cover.pdf>

National Biological Farming Conference and Expo 2015

6, 7 & 8 November 2015 at Southern Cross University, Lismore



'Regenerating Our Soils' is the theme of the conference being convened by RLI member, SoilCare Inc. The premier event, in celebration of the International Year of Soils 2015, is scheduled to begin with a welcome reception on the 6th of November followed by 2 days of conference sessions and an Expo of sustainable farming products and services.

Conference registration is now open. Conference delegate 'early bird' (before 1st September, 2015) registration fee is Australian \$200.00 + GST. After 1st September, 2015 the delegate registration fee is \$250.00 + GST. Seats are limited. Book early to avoid disappointment. Watch the [SoilCare website](http://www.soilcare.org.au) for conference details starting later this month

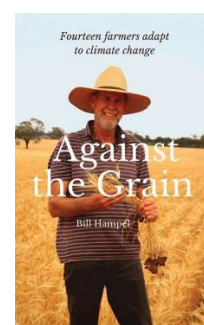


2015
International
Year of Soils

New book: Farmers adapt to climate change

In this new CSIRO book, *Against the Grain*, fourteen farmers tell how they are adapting to climate change by observing and recording changes in the weather, adapting their practices, reducing greenhouse gases, planting trees and remaining profitable. The book includes a summary of climate change impacts and an account of the numerous economic, political and media barriers to change.

<http://www.publish.csiro.au/nid/18/pid/7510.htm>



TSR Grazing Permits Round 2 Open

Landholders are invited to apply for the second round of Travelling Stock Reserve (TSR) Grazing Permits on offer through North Coast Local Land Services. Assessment of Round 1 applications has been completed and Round 2 will open for Expressions of Interest (EOI) from Monday 3 August and close on Friday 21 August. <http://northcoast.lls.nsw.gov.au/livestock/stock-routes/tsr-grazing-permits>

Green Army Information Sessions

The next round of Green Army will soon open with information sessions being run across the country. Our nearest session is in Brisbane on the **20th August** from 9am – 11am. For more information please go to:

<http://www.environment.gov.au/land/green-army/projects>



Registration now open!

Landcare NSW and Central Tablelands Local Land Services are hosting the NSW Landcare and Local Land Services Conference from the 1-3 September, in Orange, NSW. This State-wide Conference includes the Landcare Muster and the NSW State Landcare Award Presentations. As the premier event in New South Wales to showcase Landcare and environmental sustainability, the conference is being coordinated in partnership with local Landcare and community groups and is supported by Landcare NSW and the Department of Primary Industries. The conference is designed to bring together the community to facilitate networking, capacity building and to celebrate achievements of Landcare. Around 300 people from Landcare and community groups, farmers, Aboriginal groups, industry and government representatives from across NSW and Australia are invited to attend.

Tuesday 1st September – The NSW Landcare Muster will be held at Turners Vineyard during the morning (free for all to attend, register via the conference registration form). After lunch, optional field trips and activities will be held (optional extras, not included in the conference registration fees). The Welcome Reception will be held on Tuesday evening at Turners Vineyard, where you will have a chance to meet the State Landcare Award finalists (Champions).

Wednesday 2nd September – The NSW State Landcare Awards will be presented at the “Breakfast of Champions”, which will be held at Turners Vineyard. A full day of presentations will follow, with the Conference Dinner held at Turners Vineyard on Wednesday evening.

Thursday 3rd September – Conference sessions will continue until lunchtime on Thursday. After lunch, optional post conference workshops and activities will be held (additional cost, not included in the registration fees).

Registration for the Conference is now open and can be completed online by [clicking here](#). Detailed information is available on the conference website: www.nswlandcareconference.com.au.

Broken Head Coastal Corridor Restoration Project

To finalise year 1 of the Brunswick Valley Landcare NSW Environmental Trust project at Broken Head a get together of the eight participating landowners and neighbours was hosted at an the adjoining property, Araucaria.

Landowners enjoyed a delightful morning tea



while being updated on the project and provided with the opportunity to meet neighbours and talk about their projects. After morning tea Bob Smeuninx from Bushland Restoration Services demonstrated weed control methods.

Year 1 on ground works have been completed with 16 hectares of primary restoration completed by three contractors. The main weeds controlled have been Guava, Lantana and exotic grasses. Year 2 of the project will include an additional 20 hectares of primary bushland restoration and planting of 1100trees to link areas of existing native vegetation. Landowners are enthusiastic and interested in the project.

The Australian Government's Threatened Species Strategy

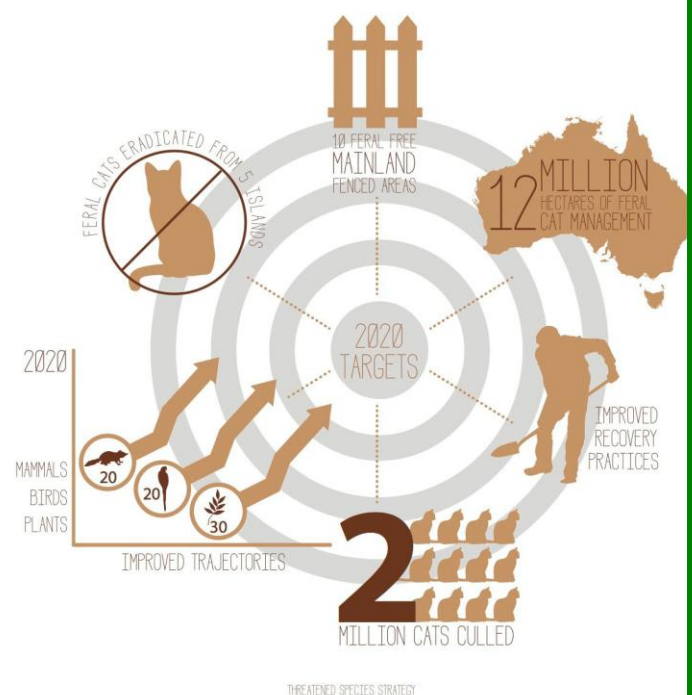
The Action Plan 2015-16 is the first instalment of a five-year Australian Government response to the risk of species extinction.

Based on principles for prioritisation outlined in the Strategy, the best available knowledge and technology, and the immediate needs of Australia's threatened species, this plan sets out areas where the Australian Government will focus its efforts to achieve significant, positive impacts.

The plan includes key action areas and targets to measure success. It is flexible and adaptive and will be monitored and reviewed annually by the Department of the Environment in consultation with delivery partners. It starts now, with hard and measurable targets from year one onwards.

The Action Plan 2015-16 identifies 10 threatened mammals and 10 threatened birds for action that will grow their populations by 2020. A further two mammals and two birds have been identified for emergency intervention. They were recognised as a priority by the Office of the Threatened Species Commissioner in response to expert input and consultation with the scientific community, and through consideration against the principles for prioritisation in the Threatened Species Strategy. The remaining eight mammals and eight birds will be identified in one year through community consultation You can read about the initial list of mammals and birds here:

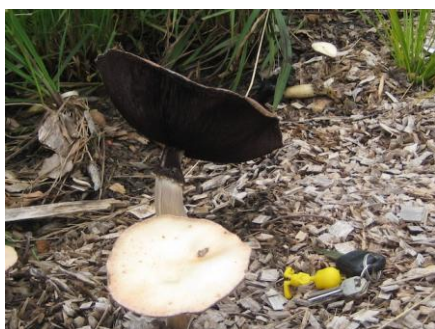
[Threatened species strategy 2020 targets](#)



Effects of Mulching with Woodchips on Fungi Diversity

Rita de Heer

In Landcare we love mulching with woodchips. Maintenance of plantings is simplified. Fewer weed plants rear their ugly seed heads. Spreading woodchips, especially camphor laurel or eucalyptus chips, cuts down on our work because woodchips can last up to three years. And, we think, by using camphor laurels, we're helping to get rid of woody weeds and so are helping biodiversity.



The ways that wood is broken up to release its nutrients is either fast, by fire. Or slow, by fungal action. Camphor laurel and eucalyptus timbers take up to two years to lose their protective oil which is the reason they take so long to be broken down, and make them so desirable as mulch.

However from the point of view of our soils, woodchips have become an important source of nutrients. But woodchips are not a natural groundcover and as such attracts a variety of opportunistic fungi not necessarily native to the region or even Australia. Yes, there are weedy fungi out there.!

In the Byron-Tweed regions I'm aware of five outbreaks to date, of Garden Kings (*Stropharia rugosoannulata*) Photo 1 and 2. All were growing in woodchips fortunately. These are very large mushrooms (cap and stem fungi) with spore counts in the millions probably. They are edible when young. Google 'Garden King' if you want to know more. If they break out into natural



vegetation they will become a pest species.



Many of our native Ink-caps and Stinkhorns are also attracted to woodchips. We have many more of these around now that we woodchip so assiduously. I've written about them before. I have seen the Stinking Anemone (*Aseroe rubra*) by the dozen this year. A bunch of as yet unidentified Little Brown Mushrooms also make it their business to break down woodchips. Photo 3.

The fungi mentioned so far number to about twenty (20) species over the whole region in all the wood chipped areas I know, as well as, I am betting, in the wood chipped areas I don't know. The number of fungi species they are displacing is unknown, but I suspect could number in the hundreds.

This week I was upset seeing a bunch of forest litter raked up from among trees and replaced by woodchips. Well meant. All the above reasons. Yet in this case I wondered if woodchips were necessary? The trees in that planting are mature. Fungal processes were taking care of the litter. Soil was being made. Nutrients were being delivered to the trees and plants.

On that patch of ground, hardly more than two square metres, when it was still covered with sticks and dead leaves and fallen down branches, I observed half a dozen fungi species that specialise in the breaking down of forest litter. That we may not see again. The danger is that they are made unwelcome everywhere and therefore will not survive.





Help Save our Aussie Icons

Be part of Landcare Australia Kakadu Challenge to support and help protect our Aussie threatened species. Discover the beauty of Australia's Top End, trek lush monsoonal forest, marvel at sheer sandstone escarpments and swim in pristine waterholes, amp under a canopy of stars in remote Kakadu, Nitmiluk and Litchfield National Parks. These inspired adventures will raise vital funds to help save Australia's ecosystems through our Landcare groups.

Weed ID: The Ute Guide - free

By Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC)

The Ute Guide application is designed to assist growers in the identification of the most common weeds found in paddocks throughout Australia. Where possible, photos have been provided for each stage of the weed's lifecycle, from seed and seedling through to mature and flowering plants.

These are categorised by plant type, and results for each can be refined by state and lifecycle, and whether they are native, currently flowering or have a distinctive smell.

<http://www.grdc.com.au/Resources/Apps>



Identify Frogs by their Croaks!

A new field guide app covers 238 Australian frog species, with over 1200 high resolution images and more than 700 frog call sound clips. It can be downloaded at the app store.

<https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/frogs-australia-complete-electronic/id680061595?mt=8>



Q Fever in the Spotlight

Farmers, veterinarians, abattoir workers among those who need to be vigilant to Q Fever according to NSW Health. The main carriers of the disease are farm animals such as cattle, sheep and goats but other animals such as kangaroos, bandicoots, domestic pets such as dogs and cats can also be infected. A vaccine is available to protect people who work with these animals.

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Factsheets/qfever.PDF>

Second ERF auction in November

The Clean Energy Regulator will hold its second Emissions Reduction Fund auction for carbon abatement contracts on 4-5 November. Auction guidelines will be published on 21 August 2015. Applications for new auction projects are required to be submitted in full by 18 September 2015.

<http://www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au/ERF/Want-to-participate-in-the-Emissions-Reduction-Fund>

Wild dogs targeted during the Autumn breeding season

A coordinated strategy to address wild dog population growth has been implemented over the past months, targeting the peak Autumn wild dog breeding season. Taking action now provides a greater potential to reduce breeding populations and therefore future impacts.



It is important that you report all wild dog sightings and attacks as soon as possible to your NCLLS Biosecurity Team. Look out for the following signs of wild dogs around your property: tracks (not from domestic pets) which will be larger and rounder than a fox; faeces; stock attacks, deaths and missing stock; unsettled domestic pets barking, growling, continuous territory marking; dens; howling. Read more in the [Problem with Wild Dogs brochure](#).

All interested landholders are encouraged to contact their local North Coast Local Land Services office to find out how to be involved.

Call 1300 795 299 to contact your Local Land Service office from Monday to Friday during business hours. <http://northcoast.lls.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/pest-control>

State of Australia's Birds 2015

State of Australia's Birds 2015 introduces the Australian Terrestrial Bird Index – a series of indices for Australia's major land-based bird groups.

Based on BirdLife Australia's Birdata - one of Australia's largest biological datasets collected by volunteer citizen scientists over the last 15 years - this ground-breaking research maps the health of our bird populations using globally endorsed analysis methods.

By providing a national health check for Australia's birds and biodiversity in general, the Index helps us to understand which bird groups and species are in trouble, across Australia as well as in specific regions.

Initial results from the Terrestrial Bird Index suggest declines in many bird groups in across most regions. It appears that the state of Australia's biodiversity, reflected by our birds, is getting worse.

Trends for the iconic Laughing Kookaburra show significant declines in the East Coast and South-East Mainland regions

Some widespread species — including the Southern Boobook and Tawny Frogmouth — show declining trends across the country

Other common birds, such as the Australian Magpie and Willie Wagtail, appear to be doing well in some regions but not in others

Most Arid Zone carnivores show significant population declines. For example, reporting rates of the Brown Goshawk have dropped by around 50% in the last 15 years

Get the [State of Australia's Birds 2015](#) Headline report now

This report explains how the Australian Bird Indices have been developed and provides headline results from four regions which together cover a vast area of Australia's landmass.

The annual Aussie Backyard Bird Count is back for 2015. Running from 19–25 October, all it takes is 20 minutes spent in your favourite outdoor space. Last year we counted 800,000 birds — let's make it a million this year! Click [here](#) to find out more



Yarning about The Pass

NPWS now offers a new Aboriginal program “Yarning About The Pass” for school students, universities and corporate groups in the Northern Rivers Region.

This new program meets the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures Australian Cross-curriculum priorities. It takes the form of a ‘walking storybook’ and looks at the archaeological study of the midden, cultural traditions, bush tucker, the kinds of weapons and tools used, and the local community’s use of the midden over time.

The 2 hour program aims to offer students and visitors the opportunity to experience the rich natural and cultural heritage of the region.

For more information on Aboriginal Discovery tours call the Byron Bay National Parks Office on 02 6620 9300 or via email cape.byron@environment.nsw.gov.au



Bees!

Landcare has launched a donation campaign to establish specially equipped tracker hives around Australian coastal ports to prevent overseas threats such as varroa mite escaping and spreading into Australia. The surveillance program needs 378 hives in 42 ports around Australia to make this an effective defence. <http://landcareaustralia.gofundraise.com.au/>

NSW DPI has produced videos on pests and diseases of honey bees to assist with honey bee biosecurity and pollination of agricultural and horticultural crops. The videos are now featured on the BeeAware website. <http://beeaware.org.au/>

Plant of the Month

This month's plant of the month is **Coral Berry *Ardisia crenata***. It originates from north east India to Japan. It is a small upright shrub growing to 1-2 m high that is shade tolerant. The leathery leaves have even, rounded teeth on margins, and are glossy and dark green above, paler and duller below. It has small white fragrant flowers borne in clusters which are followed by showy round bright red fruit. The fruit hang in clusters and can remain on the plant for months. They are fruiting now so easy to spot and easy to pull up. Just make sure you collect all the fruit and a good place to put them is in your new green bin. The organics waste from the green bins undergoes a hot composting process at Lismore City Council's MRF. Basically it is screened, then put into wind rows for 16-20 weeks (turned every two) where it gets to temperatures of over 200 degrees breaking down into a certified organic compost. Lismore has



the organic certification so it kills all weed, seeds and pests.



For more information on how to control these weeds and other weeds in the shire please visit the Byron Shire Council website and you will find weed profile sheets: <http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/weed-profiles>

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 groups co-ordinators before attending a working bee as plans do change!**

Brunswick Heads Dunecare

WHEN: 4th Sunday of the month 8:00am – 11:00am
WHERE: Meet between the rock wall and the surf club
CONTACT: Greg McDonald brunswickheadsdunecare@gmail.com 0414 457 346

East Yallakool Landcare, Ocean Shores

WHEN: each Wednesday 9:00am – 12:00 am
WHERE: East Yallakool Park, Ocean Shores
CONTACT: David Kemp dnkemp77@gmail.com 6680 4590

Green and Clean Awareness Team, Byron Bay

WHEN: 3rd Sunday of the month 9:00am
WHERE: Meet Main Beach, Byron Bay
CONTACT: Veda Turner vedaturner@gmail.com 0427 857 991

Heritage Park Landcare, Mullumbimby

WHEN: alternate Saturdays 9:00am – 11:00 am
WHERE: Heritage Park, Mullumbimby
CONTACT: Diana Hughes 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

Lower Mullum Creek Landcare, Mullumbimby

WHEN: 2nd Sunday of the month
WHERE: Azalea Street Bridge to Riverside Bridge, Mullumbimby
CONTACT:

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@australis.net 6680 1970

Suffolk Park Dunecare

WHEN: 1st Saturday of the month
CONTACT: Helen Brown 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 6684 7113

LINKS

- Arakwal <http://arakwal.com.au/>
 - Border Rangers Alliance <http://www.greasternranges.org.au/border-ranges/overview/overview>
 - 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
 - Environmental Trust <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/envtrust.htm>
 - Ewingsdale Locality Group (BVL) <http://ewingsdale.org.au/#/landcare/4532495308>
 - Far North Coast Weeds <http://fncw.nsw.gov.au/>
 - Friends of the Koala www.friendsofthekoala.org
 - North Coast Local Land Services <http://northcoast.lls.nsw.gov.au/>
 - Northern Landcare Support Services <http://www.nlss.com.au/>
 - Mullumbimby Community Gardens <http://mullumcommunitygarden.wordpress.com/>
 - North Coast nature <http://www.northcoastnature.org.au/>
 - Richmond Landcare Inc. <http://www.richmondlandcare.org/>
 - Soilcare <http://www.soilcare.org>
 - Suffolk Park Locality Group (BVL) www.landcare.nsw.gov.au/groups/suffolk-park-dunecare-group
 - Tweed Landcare Inc. <http://www.tweedlandcare.org.au/>
 - Wilson's Creek Huonbrook Landcare <http://wilsonscreeklandcare.mullum.com.au/>
 - Wetlandcare Australia <http://www.wetlandcare.com.au/index.php>
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For information about Landcare or other natural resource issues in Byron shire
please contact
Landcare Community Support Officer
Alison Ratcliffe 66267028 (Tuesday and Wednesday)
email: alison.ratcliffe@byron.nsw.gov.au



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