



Newsletter for Landcare and Dunecare in Byron Shire

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



December 2018

Yallakool Tree Planting

by Alison Ratcliffe

On Saturday 1st December 19 locals turned out to plant just over 250 local native trees in Yallakool Reserve Ocean Shores. This planting follows on from plantings between April 2014 and April 2018 with over 1000 trees already planted. The 4th photo shows trees planted last year!

Yallakool are a small friendly group working in the reserve twice a week. If you are interested in joining please contact David on 0427 650 861.

This is the first stage of the National Landcare grant. The next stage will be the construction of a raised boardwalk and some upgrading of the track. Watch this space for more updates.

This project is supported by funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.



Fresh green trees or foliage for wreaths.

\$5 a tree. All proceeds to BVL.

You'll be helping Landcare twice over! These are slash pines *Pinus elliottii* and are a weed and are being removed from one of BVL's locality group sites.

Contact Jude on 0411 298 356 to arrange your order.

For more info on slash pines <https://weeds.brisbane.qld.gov.au/weeds/slash-pine>



Plant ID Walk in Ocean Shores

Friday 18th January 8.30 – 10.30 am

Join Yallakool locality group for a plant identification walk with a local ecologist.

Numbers are limited so please email aratcliffe@byron.nsw.gov.au to book a spot.



This project is supported by funding from the Australian Governments National Landcare Program



Australian Biosecurity Symposium

12-13th June 2019

Government, industry and other interested parties unite for the inaugural *Australian Biosecurity Symposium* on the Gold Coast.

Hosted by Animal Health Australia (AHA), the Invasive Species Council (ISC) and the Centre for Invasive Species Solutions (CISS), the theme of the Symposium is preventative biosecurity practices and will focus on research and innovation, outside-of-the-box thinking and the exchange of knowledge and ideas across the biosecurity collective – agriculture (animals and plants), pest animals, weeds, wildlife, aquatics and the environment.

The symposium will provide the ideal platform for diverse cross-sectoral discussion on biosecurity in Australia, said Kathleen Plowman, AHA CEO.

<http://www.biosym.com.au/>



The December issue of Village Eco News is now available. There's a great story on the 20th anniversary celebrations.

[http://brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au/wp-](http://brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Village-Eco-News-Issue-26-November-2018.pdf)

[content/uploads/2016/06/Village-Eco-News-Issue-26-November-2018.pdf](http://brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Village-Eco-News-Issue-26-November-2018.pdf)

Landcare NSW announces new Chair

Landcare NSW has announced that Deputy Chair, Stephanie Cameron, will become the organisation's new Chairperson, in what marks a significant transition for the peak representative body of Landcare in NSW.



The transition marks the end of nearly 30 years of volunteer service to Landcare for outgoing Chair Rob Dulhunty, who was a founding member of Landcare NSW in 2007 and has served as Chair since 2012. The new Executive Committee consists of Steph Cameron Chair, Keith Hyde Deputy Chair, Hunter White Treasurer, Stuart Mosely Secretary, Bev Debrincat, Dale Stringer, and new executive committee members, Chris Post, Les Pearson and Marg Applebee.

Outgoing Executive Committee member Bob Jarman, who stepped down from his role as Secretary, was acknowledged for his many years of service and valuable contribution to Landcare.

Community Rooftop Solar Revolving Fund

Zero-interest loans putting solar systems on the rooftops of community organisations.



Funds are now available for your Community Rooftop Project!!

To apply [read the background information first](#). Then [complete the on-line form](#). Good Luck!



Contact Dave Rawlins: dave@corem.org.au for more information 04100 19997

Byron Shire Council Biodiversity Conservation Strategy

For those that could not make the meeting last week, Byron Shire Council would still love to hear what is important to you in terms of biodiversity. You can complete the survey on the yoursay page at <https://www.yoursaybyronshire.com.au/biodiversity-conservation-strategy>



Business Case for Landcare Support 2019 – 2023

Landcare NSW is working hard to secure Government funding and is also exploring other funding streams to ensure the Local Landcare Coordinator Initiative (LLCI) continues beyond June 2019.



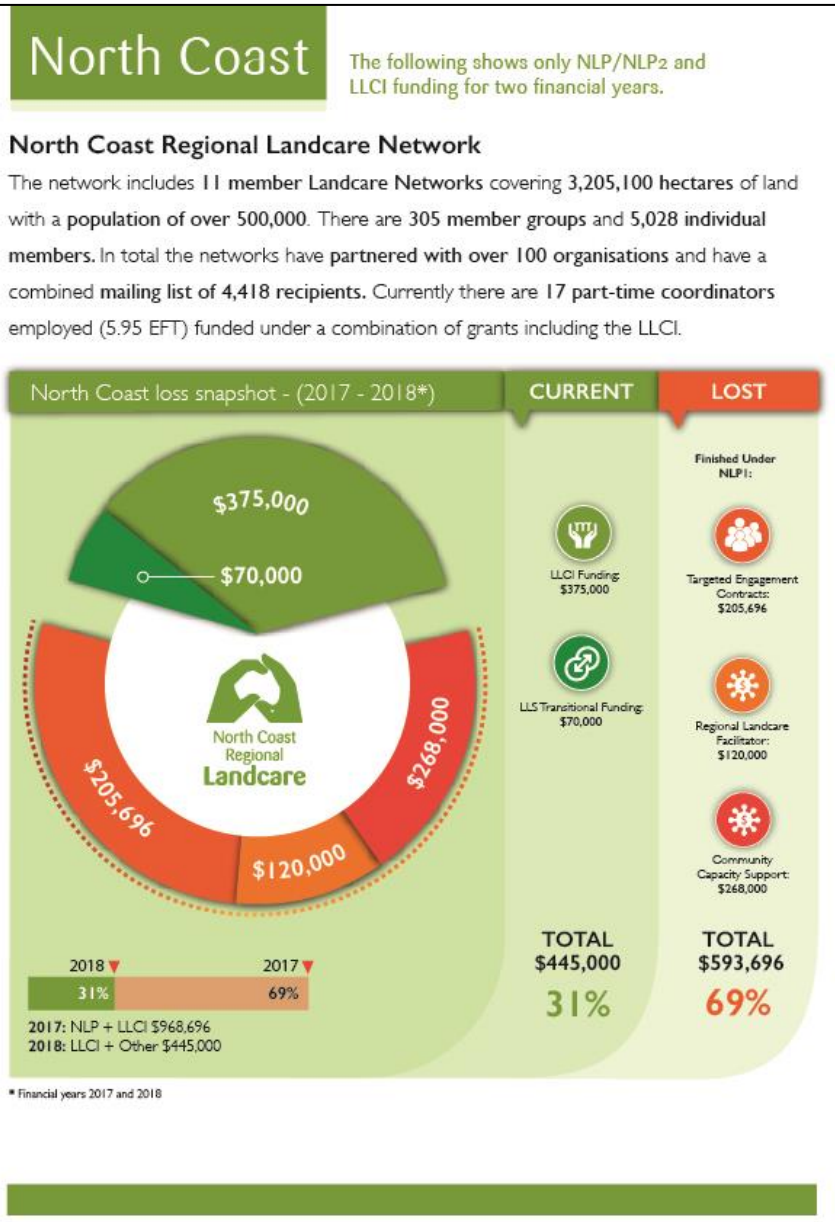
In September this year a business case for investment in the NSW Landcare Program 2019 – 2023 was

submitted to the Honourable Niall Blair, Minister for Trade and Industry, who is responsible for the LLCI. This was jointly developed by the teams at Local Land Services and Landcare NSW.

In NSW, funding for Landcare support services is approximately \$41 million between 2015 and 2019. This includes the \$15 million provided for the LLCI plus funds from other state and federal sources. The LLCI ends in June 2019 and other funding sources are declining.

The business case covers a number of issues however it is built around Local Coordinators supporting local communities.

We are working with the Minister and his senior advisors to scope out the best way to secure this investment. The Landcare community has consistently advised the Government that \$32.5 million over four years is needed commencing July 2019 to build on the platform created by the LLCI and continue the momentum of rebuilding Landcare in NSW.



Calling out for EOI - Young Farmers Leadership Council

Seeking Expressions of Interest now : 2019 Formation NRYFA leadership group

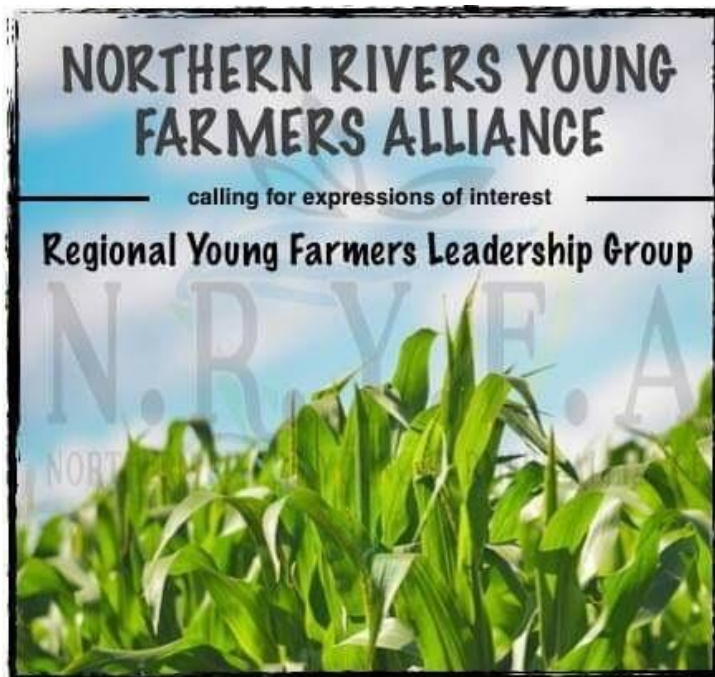
Calling for 7 young farmer representatives from each of the Northern Rivers Local Government Areas.

Its time to build the capacity of our regional young farmers network and we need your help.

Seeking a core volunteer team to drive activity, funding and opportunity for the NRYFA.

The NRYFA is important because it:

- Builds and strengthens community
- Provides opportunities for new friendships and business relationships
- Promotes sustainable land use and ethically grown produce.
- Offers cost-sharing opportunities for seed or equipment, price negotiation and labor pooling.
- Creates a venue for continuing education, mentorship, and open dialogue
- Offers young and beginning farmers a collective voice in their community
- Provides a platform for advocacy and with government agencies



For more information visit www.FutureFeeders.org

CSIRO Research on Cape Ivy

CSIRO is currently undertaking research into the population genetics of Cape ivy (*Delairea odorata*) in an attempt to determine its origins in Sth Africa and pathway of invasion into Australia. Cape ivy is a growing threat to northern NSW, which is considered its frontline of invasion in eastern Australia.



We are seeking some small leaf samples of Cape ivy from central and northern NSW for our genetic analyses. We are particularly interested in collecting up to 10 samples from each of the following satellite populations:

- Byron Bay
- Lismore
- Coffs Harbour
- Port Macquarie
- Taree
- Forster

CSIRO will send collection packs and paid return postage to weed workers who may be able to assist us with our collections. All collectors will be acknowledged through including sampling locations on an interactive map so that all participants can see how their contributions fit into the broader research program across the continent.

Please ask any interested folk to contact Ben Gooden and Isabel Zeil-Rolfe directly by email (Ben.Gooden@csiro.au or Izzy.Zeil-Rolfe@csiro.au) or phone (02 6218 3896)

STORIES to inspire and give you hope

Onion Cedar *Owenia cepiodora* – Discovery and Recovery in Nightcap National Park

by Justin Mallee, Project Officer Threatened Species (Saving our Species)

First the discovery.

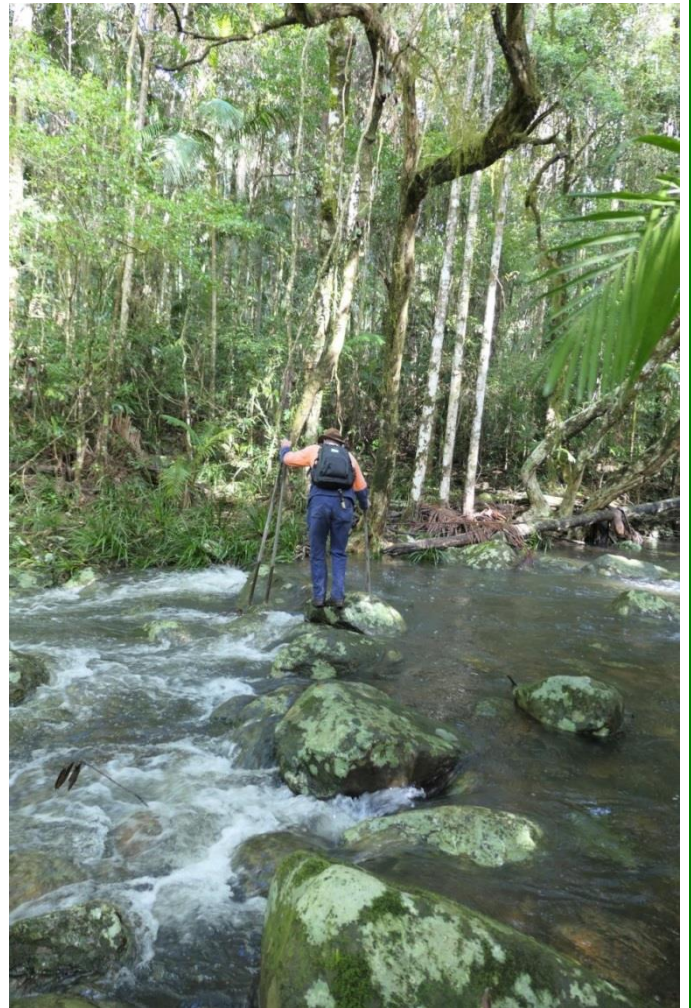
Marcel Proust wrote “The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes.” While the eyes in this story are not new, they have had a renewed focus as part of the *Saving our Species* (SoS) Onion Cedar project. The result ... a 600% increase in the number of individuals known to occur in the Nightcap National Park.

Onion Cedar is a large rainforest tree with a glossy green crown that is renowned for both its smell (like an onion!) and, historically, for its timber quality (resembling Red Cedar). Despite years of botanical exploration in the area, Onion Cedar was considered extremely rare in the Nightcap with a total population of six individuals consisting of four adults, one sapling and one seedling. In the world of plant conservation a population of six individuals is generally not good news. With numbers this low a storm event and associated tree falls could result in local extinction.

In 2017, SoS commissioned surveys to revisit the known individuals, assess the threats to them and, if opportunity allowed, look for more. The result was the discovery of a total of 37 individuals – 13 adults, 22 saplings and 2 seedlings. This is a major increase for the species and provides renewed hope for the future of the Nightcap population.

Now the recovery.

Historically, Onion Cedar would have occurred across the large tracks of forest that formed the Big Scrub. With less than 1% of its Big Scrub habitat remaining, the species is now confined to small isolated remnants including the aforementioned Nightcap population. Luckily, further to the west of Kyogle there are larger populations of Onion Cedar in the drier Hoop Pine dominated rainforest.





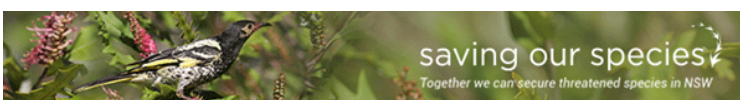
To address the low numbers in the Nightcap area, SoS is undertaking two main actions – assisted bush regeneration through the removal of competitive weeds and translocation planting of additional individuals into the existing populations.

The assisted regeneration works have removed large areas of weed dominated vegetation (mainly Lantana) adjoining known populations. This first step in the regeneration cycle

sets a ball in motion, stimulating the soil seed bank and creating opportunities for colonisation by wind, water or animal dispersed seeds. If left to their own devices the sites would likely grow as a mix of pioneering natives and weeds, but with ongoing assistance, through removal of germinating weeds, the sites will go on to become diverse and wonderful subtropical rainforests providing homes for hundreds of species of plants and animals.

In an ideal world Onion Cedar would be one of the native species colonising the bare ground following the initial weed removal. Unfortunately, this is unlikely to be the case as there are few trees of fruiting age and the dispersal mechanisms that limit the movement of seeds away from the parent trees are not known. To combat this SoS has collected seeds from the larger western populations and propagated them in a nursery. These nursery grown plants will then be planted out into the regenerating lantana gaps, thus bolstering the wild populations.

If all goes to plan, more than 100 new Onion Cedars will be planted into the Nightcap. This will not only triple the current known population, but also introduce genetic material from the western populations. It is hoped that existing and new individuals will breed and that their progeny will have greater genetic diversity and resilience to future change. Projects such as this take years of research and detailed planning. Once implemented, these actions set a new trajectory for the site and the species, that if maintained will have a legacy lasting hundreds if not thousands of years.



More sustainable crops just a spray away

Scientists are investigating whether a clay-based ‘vaccine’ for plants could safeguard the nation’s \$5.5 billion-combined cotton and vegetable industries against pest infestation and crippling crop losses.

Funded by Hort Innovation and the Cotton Research Development Corporation, the project is being delivered by the University of Queensland (UQ) in partnership with Nufarm, and involves trials of the non-toxic, biodegradable product BioClay on farms in Queensland and other locations across the country.



Hort Innovation research and development general manager David Moore said the new work followed more than four years of research into developing the product, and the trials presented an exciting step toward the commercialisation of BioClay.

“The Australian vegetable industry is among Australia’s largest horticultural industries with an estimated annual gross production value of \$3.7 billion, and exports to Asia and the Middle East valued at over \$270 million. Globally, an estimated 40 per cent of food grown is lost to crop pests and pathogens. Pest and disease management is increasingly challenging for both the fruit and vegetable and cotton industries, who are facing climate change, pesticide resistance and chemical use limitations. The high-tech BioClay spray responds to these challenges by priming the plant’s own defences, helping the plant to naturally attack specific crop pests and pathogens.”

UQ research arm, the Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation, is leading the trials, and while the project is not due for completion until 2021, agricultural biotechnologist and research leader, Professor Neena Mitter, said early signs were promising.

“Through large-scale trials we know that BioClay works, and the work we have done to date provides a great foundation for pest and disease management across vegetable and cotton crops. BioClay offers sustainable crop protection and residue free food produce – which consumers demand. There is no genetic modification of the plants, and the process does not involve chemicals that might affect untargeted insects. BioClay is the first step towards revolutionising how we manage pest control organically for increased sustainability and resilience of crops and industry at large. This is an exciting project that has the potential to ultimately reshape industry approaches to pesticides.”

Photo: Professor Neena Mitter (centre) and QAAFI researchers test the non-toxic, pathogen-free BioClay spray on cabbages. University of Queensland.

<https://landcareaustralia.org.au/project/more-sustainable-crops-just-a-spray-away/>

Water: The Missing Link for Solving Climate Change

by Terra Nova Movement

As governments prepare for the next round of climate change talks, pioneers are working on very different solutions in many places around the world. While many environmental movements still hope for the negotiations in Paris to produce new decisions, local initiatives are already implementing concrete measures with great success. They have recognized the meaning of a factor usually underestimated in climate change debates—water. A growing circle of experts confirms their pioneering work. Water is the puzzle piece that could enable us to find a quick and efficient solution for the climate catastrophe on a global scale. Read the rest of the article here <http://terranovavoice.tamera.org/2015/11/water-the-missing-link-for-solving-climate-change/>

Land for Wildlife

Farm Dams by Australian River Restoration Centre

Farm dams scatter our landscapes in their thousands and are an essential source of water for farms and for some wildlife. But dams can be so much more!



With a few modifications traditional farm dams can provide cool, clean water for stock, increase native biodiversity, improve farm aesthetics and improve landholder wellbeing.

Photo: Rehabilitated farm dam with designated stock access point, visible on the other side, allowing native vegetation to establish at the water's edge and up the dam bank.

Read more here: <http://www.riverspace.com.au/item/improving-farm-dams-for-livestock-also-creates-habitat-hot-spots/>

Wayilahr by Margaret and Peter Hall

As we pondered on a name for our new home, we found a feather formerly belonging to a yellow-tailed black cockatoo impaled in our

front grassed area and so Wayilahr (the Arakwal/Bundjalung name) got the nod! We'd recently arrived from Sydney to take over the 15 hectare property and then, as now, we realised just how little we knew. However, with good intentions and with the knowledge that not everything would work we started, mainly weeding in the first instance as previous owners had rather differing priorities. We knew we'd bought a place with high rainfall but we were taken by surprise by the growth of both our early plantings and the weeds. Our koala food trees reached 2 metres within months, however there was commensurate growth in woody weeds (lantana, privet and tobacco), vines (madeira, moth and Dutchman's pipe) and the camphor laurels appeared to be spreading in front of our eyes. We have 7 clear acres of landscaped gardens surrounded by bush and reclaimed old macadamias with the property heading up behind us to Goonengery National Park and views across the valley to Mt Jerusalem National Park. We are indeed in a biodiversity hotspot and our aims to control the spread and then eradicate weeds and create a wildlife sanctuary have become strong motivating factors in our bush regeneration decision-making and work. We still pinch ourselves every day as we can't believe we've finally made the break from the 'big smoke' and become all-consumed by this exciting venture. What makes it all so special for us? The river mist, the evening light on the bluff across the valley, the floral species we've found (many of which were on our planting 'wish list'), the bird songs and the red-necked pademelons, echidnas and goannas that have allowed us to share this marvellous place. All that and the fact that we now believe we can make a difference. Taken from Wildlife Lands – the newsletter of the Humane Society Wildlife Land Trust - a private land conservation network, a club of like-minded landholders with wildlife-friendly properties. The program is completely free of charge and legal obligation, and you can learn more at www.wildlifelandtrust.org.au



HUMANE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL
WILDLIFE LAND TRUST



2018 Aussie Backyard Bird Count Results

Together we counted more than 2.7 million birds including over 305,000 Rainbow Lorikeets! This puts the Rainbow Lorikeet at the top of the count for the fifth consecutive year. **So, why are Rainbow Lorikeets ruling the roost?** To find out head to the website to download the 2018 infographic or view the species list. <https://aussiebirdcount.org.au/2018-results/>

FUNDING

Do you have a great project and need funds to make it happen?

You can find more information on available grants on the Brunswick Valley Landcare website including a calendar of all grants expected to be available during 2018. There are also some handy tips on how to be successful with grant applications. Below is a summary of grants which are currently accepting applications and ones that are anticipated to open within the next month.

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

Community Conservation Grants

If you are working to preserve a piece of Australian cultural heritage, helping to restore a patch of habitat, connecting more people with our national parks or doing research on a threatened Aussie species you can apply for a Community Conservation Grant from the Foundation for National Parks & Wildlife.



**Foundation for
National Parks
& Wildlife**

Key areas of focus for this year's grants are:

- Land and Water - Protection, restoration, rehabilitation and revegetation of degraded habitats to ensure their ability to sustain native species.
- Threatened Species - Scientific research with tangible conservation outcomes and on-ground works to conserve Australia's threatened species.
- Cultural Heritage - Conserving and celebrating Australia's cultural heritage as part of the gift we leave to future generations.
- Parks for People - Improving National Park facilities for the enjoyment of all, to foster and encourage the appreciation of nature.

We are looking at funding projects to the value of up to around \$10k, but happy to take applications for projects larger than that which we may be able to assist in funding in other ways. The small grants round will close on **January 31, 2019**.

Priority will also be given to projects that have links to park or work that supports on-park objectives. This could include any species projects that monitors populations or provides data to assist in the management of wider populations in the region or revegetation projects that create corridors linking National Park or conservation areas.

For further information and to apply for a grant visit <https://www.fnpw.org.au/grants> or contact the Foundation for National Parks & Wildlife on grantsmanager@fnpw.org.au

Wettenhall Environment Trust

Do you have a project that needs funding around flora and fauna conservation, threatened mammal conservation, and landscape restoration and education?

We are looking for projects around:

- flora and fauna conservation (Australia-wide)
- threatened mammal conservation (Australia-wide)



Note: There are only opening dates, no closing dates. The round closes when a suitable number of applications and spread of applications have been received. <http://nwf.org.au/grants/small-environmental-grants/>

Smart Farms Small Grants Round 2

The National Landcare Program Smart Farms grants are now open, closing **at 11.30pm AEDT on the 11th January 2019**. Projects need to align to at least one of the following outcomes.

Outcome 1 – Doing and fostering sustainable natural resource management best practice

Outcome 2 – Capacity building for sustainable natural resource management

Applications may be made for projects in one of four tiers:

- Tier 1 projects are for grants of between \$5 000 and \$50 000 for Outcome 1 only, or for both Outcomes 1 and 2
- Tier 2 projects are for grants of between \$5 000 and \$50 000 for Outcome 2 only
- Tier 3 projects are for grants worth between \$50 001 and \$100 000 National Landcare Program: Smart Farms Small Grants Round 2 9
- Tier 4 projects are for grants worth between \$100 001 and \$200 000

Individuals and organisations can apply. The key thing with these grants is innovation – implementing new ideas.

<https://www.communitygrants.gov.au/grants/national-landcare-program-smart-farms-small-grants-0>

Weed of the Month

This month's weed of the month is Creeping Cinderella Weed *Calyptocarpus vialis*. A short-lived or long-lived herbaceous plant with weak sprawling stems growing up to 60 cm long. Its paired leaves (1-6 cm long) are egg-shaped in outline or somewhat triangular in shape with sparsely toothed margins. Its stems and leaves are loosely covered in short close-lying hairs and are rough to touch.

Its small yellow flower-heads (5-10 mm across) are borne singly in the upper leaf forks in winter - spring. The small yellow flower-heads resemble tiny 'daisies' (5-10 mm across). Its 'seeds' (2-4 mm long) are topped with a pair of spreading awns 1-3 mm long.

Also known as: creeping cinderella, prostrate lawn-flower, sprawling horseweed, and straggler daisy. Native to Mexico, Central America (i.e. El Salvador, Costa Rica, Guatemala and Honduras) and Cuba.

This creeping introduced plant is a widespread weed of the warmer parts of eastern Australia (i.e. in eastern Queensland and some parts of north-eastern New South Wales).

A weed of lawns, gardens, parks, footpaths, orchards, roadsides, railway lines, riparian vegetation, coastal environs, and rainforest gaps and margins. Creeping Cinderella weed is also often found growing in urban bushland, forest understoreys, coastal environs and riparian areas in south-eastern Queensland. For example, in the understorey of microphyll vine forests and riverine rainforests in sub-coastal areas, and in littoral forests and along sandy beaches in coastal districts and on offshore islands. Hence, it is also a minor environmental weed in the region. This species is also reported to be invasive in the understorey of riparian forests in central Queensland and has recently also spread into northern New South Wales.

This species reproduces mainly by seed, which readily become attached to clothing, animals and vehicles. They may also be dispersed in soil, water, agricultural produce and garden waste.

<https://weeds.brisbane.qld.gov.au/weeds/creeping-cinderella-weed>



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!**

Bangalow Land and Rivercare, Bangalow

WHEN: every Saturday 8:30am
WHERE: find out from Liz Gander
CONTACT: Liz Gander bangalowlandcare@gmail.com 66871309

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

Mullum Town Landcare, Mullumbimby

WHEN: last Sunday of the month
WHERE: find out from Rita de Heer
CONTACT: Rita de Heer 02 6684 1495 rdeheer1@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@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

Yallakool Reserve Landcare, Ocean Shores

WHEN: each Wednesday and Friday at 8.30 – 11.00 am
WHERE: corner of Yallakool Drive and Warrambool Road, Ocean Shores
CONTACT: David Kemp dnkemp77@gmail.com 0427 650 861

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>
- 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>
- Friends of the Koala www.friendsofthekoala.org
- Local Land Services www.northcoast.ils.nsw.gov.au
- North Coast Local Land Services <http://northcoast.ils.nsw.gov.au/>
- Border Ranges Richmond Valley Landcare www.brrvl.nsw.gov.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 0421 244 640 (Monday, Thursday and Friday)

email: alison.ratcliffe@byron.nsw.gov.au



This newsletter is supported by Byron Shire Council.

