



# Newsletter for Landcare and Dunecare in Byron Shire

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

 Connect on facebook

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FEBRUARY 17 Know your Weeds – second step to property planning **February 2017**  
MARCH 17 Farm Forestry Field Day

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## World Wetland Day



*Photo: A Pair of Jabiru's at Byron Wetlands courtesy of Deborah Pearse*

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February was World Wetlands Day which aims to raise global awareness of the value of wetlands for humanity and the planet. It also marks the date of the adoption of the Ramsar Convention of Wetlands in 1971, in the Iranian city of Ramsar.

The Ramsar Convention is an intergovernmental treaty for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources. Every three years, representatives of the contracting countries meet as the Conference of the Contracting Parties or COP.

We are lucky in Byron Shire to have many wetlands which attract an amazing number of beautiful birds. You can find out more about the birds that use the Byron wetlands through Byron Bird Buddies website.

<http://www.byronbirdbuddies.com.au/index.php?pageid=3278>

## Fingal Head and Letitia Spit shorebird survey



Australian Pied Oystercatcher



Bar-tailed Godwit



Beach Stone-curlew

**Come on a relaxing walk and learn about your local shorebirds for FREE! Bring a friend! All welcome. No prior experience is necessary. Bookings are essential...Don't miss out!**

**David Charley of Wildsearch Environmental Services will be leading the survey.**

**Where      New Boat Harbour, Fingal Road (opposite the Sheoak Shack Cafe)**

**When:      Saturday 11 February. 8:30am till 10:30**

**Bring:      Sun protection, plenty of water, covered shoes, pencil. Binoculars if you have them.**

**\* *Children must be accompanied by an adult***

**For more information and to book call Council  
6670 2400      RSVP Thursday 9 February**



federal films

Sat Feb 11  
Federal Hall

plus short time-lapse film:

Outlapsed

from award-winning local film-maker,

Evan Malcolm

CHASING  
ICE

PG

Dinner from 6.30pm Movie starts 8.00pm  
[federalfilmsociety.com](http://federalfilmsociety.com) ph 66849313





# Free Workshop

## Know your Weeds – Second Step to Property Planning

Come along to a free practical workshop:

- Display of local weeds with identification,
- Learn which plants are poisonous to livestock,
- Bring samples of your plants for identification,
- Free resources and literature available.



**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2016 12.30 pm – 4.30 pm Ewingsdale**

### PROGRAM AND GUEST SPEAKERS:

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 12.30 – 1.00 | Lunch will be provided.   |
| 1.00 - 1.15  | Welcome and Introductions   |
| 1.15 – 2.00  | High Priority Weeds with Kim Curtis from Rous County Council (Far North Coast Weeds)    |
| 2.00 – 2.45  | Plants Poisonous to Livestock with Phil Kemsley, veterinarian from Local Land Services  |
| 2.45 – 3.30  | Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assets on private land with Shane Ivey from Madhima Gulgan |
| 3.30 – 4.00  | Afternoon tea will be provided  |
| 4.00 – 4.30  | Time for questions and discussion   |

**Bookings are essential** please contact: Bela Allen 6684 7113 [bela\\_allen@yahoo.com](mailto:bela_allen@yahoo.com)

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



# *Rainforests of Subtropical Australia*

## *A Symposium of Science and Practice*

A decade since the last major rainforest conference in eastern Australia, Rainforests of Subtropical Australia (ROSA) brings you the very latest in rainforest science and restoration, with sessions on climate change, threatened species, rainforest values and restoration.

### **FEATURING:**

Carla Catterall  
Ian Lowe  
Ralf Buckley  
Roger Kitching  
Tim Low

Plus over 30 of  
Australia's leading  
rainforest experts!

The 2017 ROSA Symposium is brought to you by Healthy Waterways and Catchments, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme



Healthy Waterways  
ONE CLEAR VISION



SEQ  
Catchments  
Healthy Land. Healthy Water.



Australian Government

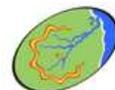
National  
Landcare  
Programme



**23 - 24 March 2017**  
**Gold Coast**

For more information, and to register visit  
[rosa2017.eventbrite.com.au](https://www.eventbrite.com.au)

## Rainforest Restoration Tour in the Mid Tweed



Tweed Landcare

When: **Saturday 25 February – 9.30am until midday**

Where: Directions to the property provided when you register

This event is part of a six-year project funded through the NSW Environmental Trust Community Bush Regeneration Large Project Stream to increase habitat corridor connectivity in the Mid Tweed subcatchment.

Visit a private property restoring bushland that links Wollumbin National Park to the Tweed River and learn about the plants and animals that are threats to corridor habitat.

Learn from:

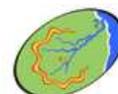
- Nicole Beutel, bush regenerator on a guided tour of the restoration site
- David Charley, Wildsearch Environmental Services – how to monitor, assess and control vertebrate pest animals
- Gabrielle Blackwell, Rous County Council – how to identify and control weeds

A reasonable level of fitness needed to participate. Sturdy shoes and sunsafe clothing essential. Morning tea is provided.

Please register with Jude Mason on 6670 2199 or [landcareofficer@tweed.nsw.gov.au](mailto:landcareofficer@tweed.nsw.gov.au) by Thursday 23 February.

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## Control large woody vine weeds workshop



Tweed Landcare

When: **Saturday 18 March – 9.30am to 1pm**

Where: The New Govardhana Farm, 525 Tyalgum Rd, Eungella

The Mid Oxley River riparian restoration and connectivity project, funded by the NSW Government through the Environmental Trust is now into its second year and much progress has been made. A focus of this project is the control of large woody vine weeds, particularly Cat's Claw Creeper which smothering the riparian vegetation for many years.

A project outcome is, to educate and inspire local landowners, and the public regarding ecological values and processes which builds community capacity to recognise and deal with threatening processes and invasive species. Participate in this event where you can meet with likeminded people and learn or refresh your land care skills in stewardships of our environment

- 25 participants will receive instruction in the identification and control of large woody vine weeds
- Control established large woody weed species
- Control seed bank re-emergences
- Plant re-establishment and planting to control vine weeds

Also, featured will be:

- Threats posed by weeds to Threatened biodiversity - David Milledge (Landmark Ecological Services).
- Aquatic weeds – Kim Curtis (Rous County Council)

A light lunch will be served that caters for vegetarian and gluten free diets. Please wear sturdy shoes and sun safe clothing. Numbers are limited and booking is essential please contact Jude Mason 02 6670 2199 or [info@tweedlandcare.org.au](mailto:info@tweedlandcare.org.au)

## Farm Forestry Field Day Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017

How to use a selection of suitable local native tree species combined with soil science to create a biodiverse forest which may be sustainably harvested in years to come. Experts Dr Kevin Glencross and Dr John Grant from Southern Cross University will speak at the field day to be held on a Myocum property.

Bookings are essential, Bela Allen email:- [bela\\_allen@yahoo.com](mailto:bela_allen@yahoo.com)

## Start Something Workshops

Do you have a bright idea that would help your community and the natural world, but keep thinking, 'How do I start? What do I do next?'

Maybe you have a great idea, or maybe you have the drive to help someone else get their idea off the ground. Your local community group might be looking for new ways to secure funding and build partnerships.

The Start Something Workshops may be what you have been looking for. Free to attend, the workshops focus on three skills areas; shaping your idea, finding finance and telling your story. You will gain practical skills and knowledge to help build and nurture a new project or business idea. You will hear from experts and successful entrepreneurs and discover resources you can draw on in your community.

We are investing in you so you can invest in your community and a better future for your region.

**18<sup>th</sup> March 2017 Free at The Farm, Ewingsdale**

[http://register.environment.nsw.gov.au/start-something?utm\\_source=redirect&utm\\_medium=all&utm\\_content=&utm\\_campaign=Start%20Something%20bitlink](http://register.environment.nsw.gov.au/start-something?utm_source=redirect&utm_medium=all&utm_content=&utm_campaign=Start%20Something%20bitlink)



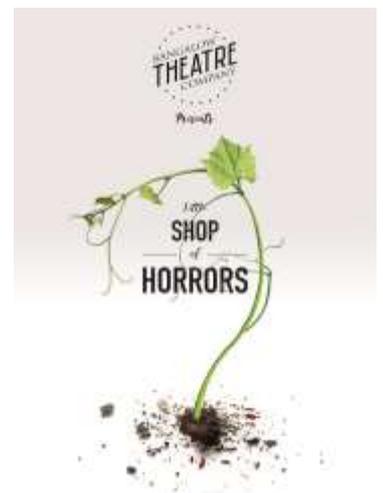
## Little Shop of Horrors Fundraisers

Bangalow Land and Rivercare would like to invite all who may be interested to come along to the Bangalow Theatre production of Little Shop of Horrors on Saturday February 18th.

Tickets are \$35 of which part will go towards funding the work of Bangalow Landcare. Check it out here: <http://www.bangalowtheatre.com.au/whats-on-1/>

If you would like to come along to this evening please let me know by Thursday Feb 9th so the booking can be confirmed and make payment to Bangalow Landcare BSB 728728 Ac No 22209164 Ban

It should be a fun evening, hope to see you there





## *In the Valley* Rainforest News and Views



In the Valley the newsletter for Wilsons Creek Huonbrook Landcare is now available to download. There is a great article on myrtle rust and what purple fruit is that.

[http://brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/IN-the-Valley-17\\_1-February-2017.pdf](http://brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/IN-the-Valley-17_1-February-2017.pdf)

## **Brunswick Valley Landcare Inc. is looking for a new secretary**

Brunswick Valley Landcare (BVL) is looking for a new Secretary. The duties of the secretary include attending to the activities that contribute to the administration of the organisation. This includes monitoring and responding to correspondence and keeping minutes of meetings.

This is a voluntary position and would suit someone who is organised and computer savvy, and with an interest in the environment and conservation. Training will be provided. Committee meetings are a relaxed monthly affair in Mullumbimby.

If you are interested, please contact the BVL for more information and a copy of the Duty Statement at: [brunswickvalleylandcare@gmail.com](mailto:brunswickvalleylandcare@gmail.com).



## **Public Exhibition Stage 3 Vegetation Mapping**

Vegetation Mapping for Huonbrook, Upper Main Arm & Upper Wilsons Creek localities (Stage 3) is on public exhibition for six weeks from **2 February to 16 March 2017**.

### **How you can be involved:**

- visit [www.byron.nsw.gov.au/public-exhibition](http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/public-exhibition) to review the maps and advise Council, by making a submission before 16 March 2017, if the vegetation on your land is different to what is shown on the maps.
- call 6626 7324 to talk to Council's staff or to make an appointment: 9.00 - 12.00, Tuesdays to Fridays.
- email your submission to [submissions@byron.nsw.gov.au](mailto:submissions@byron.nsw.gov.au) or post to PO Box 219, Mullumbimby NSW 2482.



Byron Shire Council  
70-90 Station Street, Mullumbimby NSW 2482  
E: [submissions@byron.nsw.gov.au](mailto:submissions@byron.nsw.gov.au)

Ph: 6626 7324

[www.byron.nsw.gov.au](http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au)

## Conservation Land Management



Conservation Land Management certificates are running at Kingscliff TAFE. Certificate IV in particular, needs another 3 people by Thursday for it to go ahead. Rhonda James is teaching the course so it will be a great course to learn all about Bush Regeneration. This is the course that you need to complete to work as a Bush Regenerator. The key is to ensure that the following codes are quoted:

Cert IV Code AHC40916-01V02

<http://www.northcoasttafe.edu.au/courses/certificate-iv-in-conservation-and-land-management-1.aspx>

CERT III Code AHC31716-01V01

<http://www.northcoasttafe.edu.au/courses/certificate-iii-in-natural-area-restoration.aspx>

Contact Danny on 0419 124 986.

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## ChenCert and First Aid

There is a Chemcert Course on 10<sup>th</sup> February at Kingscliff TAFE \$200 Call Bob 0447 898 097

And a First Aid Course in Murwillumbah \$130 Call Desley 0437 652 062.

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## RegenTV is here!



WORKING WITH NATURAL PROCESSES

An inspiring new raft of regenTV resources have made their way onto the AABR website over summer. The additions include presentations from the 2016 AABR Forum 'Experience Counts' and a new set of learning resources on the theme Selecting Appropriate Approaches for Restoration. The new videos provide an opportunity to sit back with a cuppa and experience the intellectual stimulation of an AABR forum from the comfort of your chosen viewing platform. <http://www.aabr.org.au/regentv/>

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## Launch of Revive Our Wetlands Program

Conservation Volunteers Australia (CVA) will celebrate World Wetlands Day by launching the Revive Our Wetlands program. Revive Our Wetlands is a national initiative that will expand CVA's role engaging communities to conserve wetlands and their catchments for nature and people. Revive Our Wetlands activities will include wetland assessment and planning, on-ground conservation activities delivered by volunteers, citizen science, community engagement and training. [Follow the link to find out more](#)

# Far North Coast Bush Fire Management Committee

## PUBLIC EXHIBITION OF DRAFT DOCUMENT

### Far North Coast Bush Fire Risk Management Plan

The Far North Coast Bush Fire Management Committee is currently seeking comments on its draft Bush Fire Risk Management Plan (BFRMP) that has recently been prepared.

The draft BFRMP covers the Ballina, Byron and Tweed local government areas. It includes information about bush fire risk and threat to local areas and specifies works to be done to manage bush fire risk in these areas.

The draft BFRMP applies to all land in the Ballina, Byron and Tweed areas including private land.

The draft BFRMP will be on exhibition for a period of 42 days from Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2017 until Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> of March 2017.

The Draft BFRMP is on display at Byron Shire Council: 70-90 Station St, Mullumbimby and National Parks and Wildlife Service offices in Byron Bay.

Copies of the draft BFRMP may be obtained by contacting (02) 6671 5500 during office hours.

Written submissions on the Draft BFRMP can be sent to the BFMC by email to [farnorthcoast.zone@rfs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:farnorthcoast.zone@rfs.nsw.gov.au) or by post to the Executive Officer, Far North Coast BFMC, P.O. Box 816 Murwillumbah NSW 2484. The closing date for submissions is Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> of March 2017.

For further enquires, contact NSW Rural Fire Service, on (02) 6671 5500.

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## Have Your Say: Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan

The North Coast Regional Weed Committee and North Coast Local Land Services have prepared a Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan.

Landcare has been part of the development of the Plan, and is represented on the Regional Weed Committee through Barry Powells of Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare. This is your chance to have your say on the draft plan before it is finalised.

The North Coast Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan will be on public exhibition from **8 February to 8 March 2017**.

The purpose of the Plan is to guide weed management in the region. The Plan will help implement the NSW weed reforms, Biosecurity Strategy and Invasive Species Plan in relation to weeds for the North Coast region. The North Coast Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan builds on past weed planning efforts and is based on the accumulated experience and expert local knowledge of Regional Weed Committee members and their networks. It identifies priority weeds, their management objectives, and the recommended measures that will allow land managers to meet their General Biosecurity Duty.

The Plan is non-regulatory, rather that it prioritises species for management under the Biosecurity Act 2015. As such there are no specific requirements mentioned for control at a regional level. The regulatory control of weeds in our region will remain with the local Control Authorities (Councils) who are responsible for compliance under the Biosecurity Regulations.

Online feedback on the plan can be made from 8 February - 8 March via the North Coast Open website. The North Coast Draft Plan, additional supporting information, and feedback process will be available on North Coast Open from Wednesday 8 February. <http://open.lis.nsw.gov.au/nc-weeds>

## Illegal Dumping Reports

Incase you didn't know Byron Shire Council has a Illegal Dumping Officer, Tash Morton, who works one day a week. She has been working with all the sections of Council over the last 6 months to improve the data collection and get a comprehensive understanding of the scale and nature of the illegal dumping in the shire. This is done with the hope that they can build a case to get more funding to deal with illegal dumping.

The EPA has an online resource to log incidents of online dumping and the more people that use the system the more likely we are to get resources to deal with this huge problem.

NSW EPA Illegal Dumping Online Database - RID Online. It is a state-wide database for local councils, land managers and the general public that allows the EPA to develop a comprehensive database of illegal dumping incidents. This will enable hot spots to be identified and illegal dumping prevention strategies to be developed. <https://ridonline.epa.nsw.gov.au/#/home>

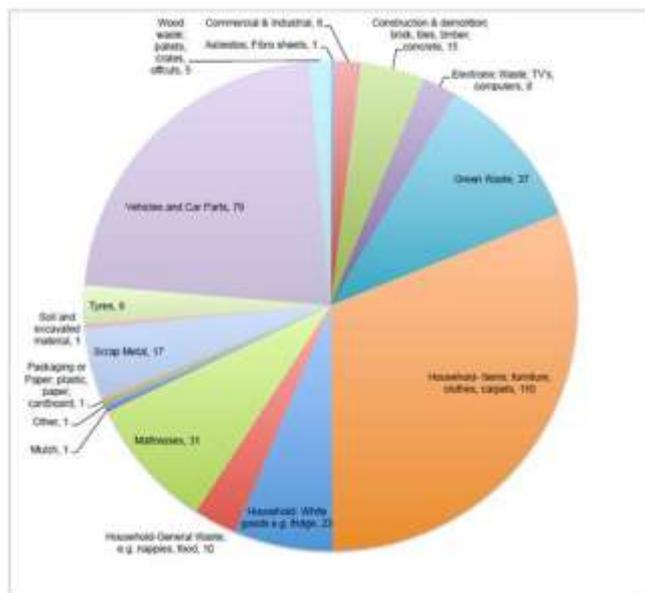
Table 1: Illegal dumping incidents recorded by Council

2014/15	2015/16	First 6 months of 2016/17
42	64	355

Any incident recorded on this page are also emailed to the Customer Request Management System in Council and therefore starts a chain of response within Council. The benefit of this system over the Councils CRM is that it is much easier to pull the data from and build a picture of the dumping hot spots and waste types being dumped.

There have only been 3 reports from the RID online public interface since July 2016.

Chart 1: Incidents by waste types illegally dumped



Furniture and household items account for 31% of incidents, vehicles and car parts 22%, green waste 10%, mattresses 9% and household white-goods account for 7% of the illegal dumping.

I feel sure that there are more incidents of green waste dumping out there – let's start recording them!

If you would like to contact Tash her details are below.

**Tash Morton** | Illegal Dumping Project Officer | **BYRON SHIRE COUNCIL** Thursday only

P: 02 6626 7175 | M: 0435022717 | F: 02 6684 3018 | E: [natasha.morton@byron.nsw.gov.au](mailto:natasha.morton@byron.nsw.gov.au)

## STORIES to inspire and give you hope

### How does Biodiversity Loss affect me and everyone else?

by WWF Global

"I understand there may be a biodiversity crisis, but how does that affect me?"

Well.

You see.

It's like this...

Biological diversity is the resource upon which families, communities, nations and future generations depend. It is the link between all organisms on earth, binding each into an interdependent ecosystem, in which all species have their role. **It is the web of life.**



The Earth's natural assets are made up of plants, animals, land, water, the atmosphere AND humans! Together we all form part of the planet's ecosystems, which means if there is a biodiversity crisis, **our health and livelihoods** are at risk too.

But we are currently using 25% more natural resources than the planet can sustain. As a result, species, habitats and local communities are under pressure or direct threats (for example from loss of access to fresh water).

**Biodiversity underpins the health of the planet and has a direct impact on all our lives.**

To read more visit : [http://wwf.panda.org/about\\_our\\_earth/biodiversity/biodiversity\\_and\\_you/index.cfm](http://wwf.panda.org/about_our_earth/biodiversity/biodiversity_and_you/index.cfm)

## Land for Wildlife



### Australia Breeds Brainy Birds

by Jesse Hawley, CSIRO Blog

Ask someone to name a unique Australian animal and most likely they'll say kangaroo, platypus or koala. But we should also spare a thought for our unique birds.

Our parrots are not only visually spectacular – with splashes of every colour, in every size and shape – they are also some of the smartest and longest lived birds in the world. Our songbirds — ravens, honeyeaters, magpies, bowerbirds — have some of the greatest minds of the animal kingdom. They go fishing, remember people's faces, mimic other species and even play hide-and-seek. They stay younger for longer than Northern Hemisphere species and can live twice as long.

To read more visit <https://blog.csiro.au/australia-breeds-brainy-birds/>



*Kookaburras have adapted to become supreme bbq snag stealers. Photo: Carl Davies*

## 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 2016. 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/>

### Building Better Regions Fund

This program provides funding for infrastructure and community investment projects that will create jobs, drive economic growth and build stronger regional communities into the future. Both streams are now open. The Investment Projects Stream will close at 5pm local time on 28 February 2017 and the Community Investments Stream will close at **5pm local time on 31 March 2017**. <https://www.business.gov.au/assistance/building-better-regions-fund>



Department  
of Industry  
Resources & Energy

### Small Grants for Rural Communities (SGRC)

Grants for projects to address issues that make a difference to the sustainability of rural, regional and remote communities including projects that address the following:

Not-for-profit community organisations that have an ABN or Incorporation Certificate can apply. **Organisations / projects demonstrating community partnerships are preferred** to multiple applications from one community

Applications will be accepted any time by **email**, through to **5pm Friday, 31 March 2017**.

[http://www.frrr.org.au/cb\\_pages/small\\_grants\\_for\\_rural\\_communities.php](http://www.frrr.org.au/cb_pages/small_grants_for_rural_communities.php)



### James N Kirby

The James N Kirby Foundation offers grants of between \$3K and \$15K for DGR-registered organisations, particularly those unable to rely on high-profile fundraising. Priority is given to organisations in NSW or national-level programmes which primarily benefit NSW. Deadline **28 February**. <http://www.kirbyfoundation.com.au/eligibility-criteria/how-to-apply/>



JAMES N. KIRBY  
FOUNDATION

### Aid For NSW Farmer Upskill

NSW farmers can take subsidised pre-approved courses through the State Government's \$45m Farm Business Skills Professional Development Program. Alternatively farmers can apply for other professional development activities. Participants can claim reimbursement of up to 50% (GST-exclusive) up to \$5000/farmer or \$9000/farm business. Ongoing. <http://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/assistance/professional-development-program>

### Grass Roots Grants

The 2017 granting round is now open! Small grants are available to organisations working in rural and regional Australia. AFF will be accepting Expressions of Interest between 15th December 2016 and the 28th February 2017.

<http://www.aussiefarmersfoundation.org.au/2016-grassroots-grants-announced/>



## Litter Prevention Grants Program

In partnership with Keep NSW Beautiful [external link](#), community litter grants help community groups tackle littering in their local area. Funded by the waste levy under Waste Less, Recycle More, this program also provides resources, tools and advice to community groups working to keep their local area clean. Due 1st March 2017.

<http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/wastegrants/community-litter.htm>



## Solution Search

Solutions to some of the world's greatest conservation and development challenges exist in local communities around the globe. Many times, however, these solutions remain on the local level and go unnoticed by the larger community. Solution Search, an innovative contest created by Rare, is designed to do just that. The contest sources, rewards and disseminates what is already working in conservation and development. **FARMING FOR BIODIVERSITY** with a **Grand Prize of \$30,000** is now open.

<http://www.solutionsearch.org/>

## Foundation for National Parks and Wildlife Private Land Conservation Grants

The Private Land Conservation Grant program from the Foundation for National Parks and Wildlife is due to open very soon. All Land For Wildlife (or other conservation-covenanted properties) should consider applying.



Grants Applications Open: Monday 13 February 2017

Grant Applications Close: **Friday 17 March 2017**

One application per property per year is accepted from landholders with one of the following commitments:

Category 1: Conservation Agreement under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 or Trust Agreement under the Nature Conservation Trust Act 2001 or In-perpetuity Registered Property Agreement under the Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997 - Up to \$5,000 a year

Category 2: Conservation Property Vegetation Plan under the Native Vegetation Act 2003 or Wildlife Refuge under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 - Up to \$2,000 a year

Category 3a: Applications for this level are for group Conservation Training and/or Education and can be submitted by Wildlife Land Trust and / or Land for Wildlife members, Land for Wildlife Regional Providers and Trainers / educators on behalf of Wildlife Land Trust and/or Land for Wildlife - Up to \$2,000 a year for training or education proposals

Category 3b: Applications can be submitted by Wildlife Land Trust and / or Land for Wildlife members - Up to \$1,500 a year for on ground works

<http://www.fnpw.org.au/grants/nsw-private-land-conservation-grants>

## Clubgrants

Applications for grants of up to \$5000 open on 1 March 2017. Category 1 funding is for projects that address specific community priority areas which include:

Indigenous recognition and support, Improving the lives of youth, Supporting diversity in the community, Supporting people with a disability, Affordable and accessible health and wellbeing services, Support for the ageing community, Economic opportunities and participation for women. To be eligible to apply you must be a not-for-profit organisation working in the relevant Local Government Area and comply with the Category 1 Guidelines. <http://www.clubsnsw.com.au/community/clubgrants/about-clubgrants>



# Water Lettuce

(*Pistia stratiotes*)



Water lettuce is a native of Asia, Africa and equatorial America. As the name suggests, the plant looks like a lettuce and is free floating on water. Although cute in appearance, this plant has the potential to rapidly cover entire water bodies with a dense mat of leaves. This results in a decrease of the water quality for any animals that may use the water body.

This plant is listed by the NSW State Government as a class 1 notifiable weed, which means that it is considered to be of the highest importance for eradication from the State due to the serious threat that it poses to the State's agriculture sector, coupled with the negative impacts it can cause to the environment.

The arrival of Water lettuce into the Northern Rivers has occurred at several different locations over time. Infestations have been located in the Tweed River catchment at Piggabeen and Tyalgum, and the Richmond River catchment at Bungawalbin, Casino, Bonalbo and Grevillia.

Emptying unwanted aquarium or fish pond plants into dams, creeks or streams is an offence, and may harm the environment. When removing plants from an aquarium, remove from the water and let the plant dry out completely before wrapping in paper and disposing of it in the bin.

If you find Water lettuce, please notify Rous County Council on 6623 3833.



## Weed of the Month



This month's weed of the month is Giant Devil's Fig *Solanum chrysotrichum*. It is a perennial shrub that originates from Central America. It can grow to 3-4 m high, with lots of star shaped hairs on young stems and petioles. Prickles are usually sparse and slightly recurved. Leaves are broadly ovate and deeply lobed with the upper leaf darker than the underside. The underside is also densely hairy. Flowers are white and deeply incised. It has a yellow or orange-yellow berry that is 10-15 mm in diameter. It flowers in Autumn to Spring. It rapidly invades disturbed sites and outcompetes native vegetation especially along creek banks. The seeds are dispersed by birds.



## 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: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month 8:00am – 11:00am  
WHERE: Meet in North Beach Car Park  
CONTACT: Jordan Moore [brunswickheadsdunecare@gmail.com](mailto:brunswickheadsdunecare@gmail.com) 0413 962 468 txt mess pls

### Yallakool Reserve Landcare, Ocean Shores

WHEN: each Friday at 8.30 am  
WHERE: corner of Yallakool Drive and Warrambool Road, Ocean Shores  
CONTACT: Felicity Watson 0467 650 140  
or David Kemp [dnkemp77@gmail.com](mailto:dnkemp77@gmail.com) 0427 650 861

### Green and Clean Awareness Team, Byron Bay

WHEN: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month 9:00am  
WHERE: Meet Main Beach, Byron Bay  
CONTACT: Veda Turner [vedaturner@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:bromspot@gmail.com)

### Jinangong Landcare, Ocean Shores

WHEN: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month  
WHERE: The Tunnel Road, Ocean Shores  
CONTACT: Ian Parer [ianparer@hotmail.com](mailto:ianparer@hotmail.com)

### Lower Mullum Creek Landcare, Mullumbimby

WHEN: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month  
WHERE: find out from Rita de Heer  
CONTACT: Rita de Heer 02 6684 1495 [rdeheer1@bigpond.com](mailto:rdeheer1@bigpond.com)

### South New Brighton Dunecare

WHEN: 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:robyn.bolden@australis.net) 6680 1970

### Suffolk Park Dunecare

WHEN: 1<sup>st</sup> 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

## LINKS

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- 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](http://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>
  - Rous County Council (formerly Far North Coast Weeds) <http://rous.nsw.gov.au/>
  - Friends of the Koala [www.friendsofthekoala.org](http://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](http://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](mailto:alison.ratcliffe@byron.nsw.gov.au)



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