



# Newsletter for Landcare and Dunecare in Byron Shire

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

 Connect on facebook

March 2018

## Koala finds a new home

by Vicky King, Wilsons Creek

A koala came to visit our property two weeks ago. We found him in the koala fodder trees we planted 3 years ago as part of Byron Shire Council's Koala Connections project, so clearly they are doing their job!

Goes to show the truth in the saying "the best time to plant a tree was 30 years ago but the next best time is today".

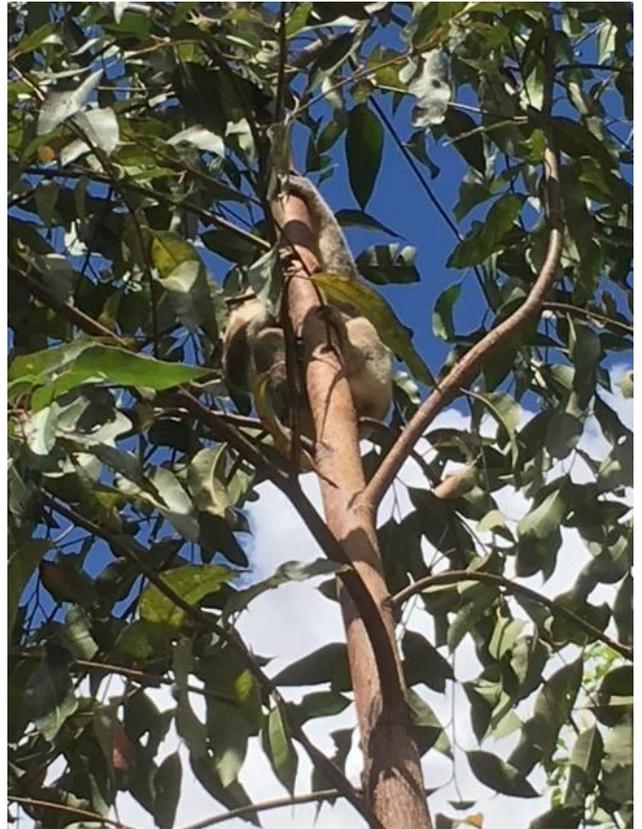
## Brunswick River getting cleaner each year

by Byron Bay Eco Cruises and Kayaks

Last Sunday was the 6th year we have hosted a Brunswick River clean up as part of Clean Up Australia Day. Every year wonderful people come along as volunteers, giving up their time and working hard to make this beautiful place we call home better for everyone to enjoy.

It is heartbreaking to see marine life, birds and animals injured or killed because of rubbish in waterways, on riverbanks and beaches.

The good news is that the river is staying cleaner, less rubbish every year has been collected so we



believe our clean ups are having a big effect. Also we noticed that not as much rubbish was collected on the foreshore around the harbour, not much fishing line, a few cigarette butts, bits and pieces of plastic and cans but it appears that people are caring more.

This will be our legacy for future generations so always bin, reuse or recycle your rubbish for the sake of the planet.

# OUR KOALAS NEED KOALA WATCHERS

## FREE KOALA WORKSHOPS

Becoming a Koala Watcher

Saturday 10th March

9.30am-12.30 pm

Broken Head Hall

Broken Head Road

Broken Head



Come along and find out:

- How to become a koala watcher
- How to recognise the signs of healthy, sick, injured and distressed koalas
- When koalas may need koala watchers
- What you can do to help support a healthy koala population in your local community

Refreshments provided. If you would like more information or to register for the workshop contact Maria Matthes, Koala Watch Project Officer, on 0467 855 990 or [maria@healinghistory.com.au](mailto:maria@healinghistory.com.au) or Friends of the Koala on 6621 4664



# North Coast Weeds Action Program Landholder Forum

**Venue: South Grafton RSL**

**Date: 8 March 2018**

**Time: 9.00 am to 3.30 pm**

**Morning tea, lunch and  
afternoon tea will be  
provided.**

Professor Brent Sellars, University of Florida, is an international expert of Weedy Sporobolous Grasses.

Professor Sellars will be visiting the North Coast for one day only.

The day will include presentations on Giant Parramatta Grass and Tropical Soda Apple and a range of other informative information.

This event is brought to you by North Coast Local Land Services, NSW Department of Primary Industries and North Coast Local Control Authorities.

It is made possible with funding from the North Coast Weeds Action Program.

If sufficient interest is received, a bus from Kempsey and Lismore may be organised. If you are from these areas contact us to register your interest.

**You must register to attend this event.  
Contact Justine Graham by phone 6659 9409 or  
by email [justine.graham@lls.nsw.gov.au](mailto:justine.graham@lls.nsw.gov.au)**





## Cat's claw creeper biological control workshop and field trip

**Date:** Wednesday 21 March 2018  
**Time:** 9:45 am till 2:30 pm  
**Location:** Conference Room, Grafton Primary Industries Institute (NSW DPI) corner of Trenayr Road and Experimental Farm Road, Junction Hill (see maps overpage)  
**Free:** Lunch and morning tea provided  
**Trainer:** Troy Brown Technical Officer Invasive Species Unit

**Please wear sun safe clothes, a hat and covered shoes or boots.**

9:45 am Morning tea  
 10:00 Information session about the jewel beetle, a biological control agent for managing cat's claw creeper. Come along to learn about:
 

- where to use biocontrol
- best practice for releasing the jewel beetles
- monitoring for jewel beetles and impacts on cat's claw creeper
- integrating other methods of control with biocontrol

 11:30 pm Site tour of biocontrol breeding facility  
 12:30 Lunch  
 1:00 Bus trip to cat's claw creeper site including a biocontrol agent release and monitoring demonstration.  
 2:30 Arrive back at Grafton Primary Industries Institute

**Please RSVP by 16 March 2018**

Wendy Gibney NSW DPI phone: 02 6626 1268 email: [wendy.gibney@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:wendy.gibney@dpi.nsw.gov.au)



Australian Government

*This activity is supported by the Established Pest Animals and Weeds initiative, part of the Australian Government's Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper, the government's plan for stronger farmers and a stronger economy.*



# XIVth Australian Bryophyte Workshop

## 23-28 September 2018

Generally held every two years, the Australian Bryophyte Workshops aim to present opportunities for those interested in learning about bryophytes to meet and exchange knowledge in different environments.

The XIVth Australian Bryophyte Workshop is being held in the Big Scrub region of north-eastern New South Wales. The workshop will be based at Dorrroughby approximately 30 minutes' drive north of Lismore. Registration is now open for the workshop.

### Venue

Surrounded by remnants of the Big Scrub, the Dorrroughby Environmental Education Centre will play host to the workshop. The centre is conveniently located in proximity to a number of National Parks and provides shared dormitory facilities with camping areas also available. Each dormitory sleeps 18. Temperatures for this area during late September are likely to be warm during the day and cool at night.

### The Big Scrub

The Big Scrub existed in the Bundjalung Aboriginal Nation and was the largest area of subtropical lowland rainforest in eastern Australia. Intensively cleared by colonists for agricultural use in the 19th century, only a few remnants survived, with less than 1% of the former extent remaining.

Located on the north coast of New South Wales, between the towns of Byron Bay (east) and Lismore (west), the core Big Scrub area consisted of an estimated 900km<sup>2</sup> of subtropical rainforest. It primarily grows on fertile basalt and floodplain derived soils.

### Venue & Dates

Dorrroughby Environmental Education Centre

2101 Dunoon Rd, Dorrroughby

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2018



### Field Trips & Collecting

There will be daily field trips to a variety of ecosystems, including remnants of the Big Scrub (lowland subtropical rainforest) and wet and dry sclerophyll forest.

Collecting will be permissible under approval from the local NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service managers.



## Getting there

### By air

Rex has direct flights into Lismore from Sydney otherwise several airlines also fly into nearby Ballina. All major airlines fly into the Gold Coast or Brisbane airports from most Australian capital cities. Jetstar has direct flights from Christchurch, Wellington and Auckland. Transport to Dorrroughby can be organised for those arriving at the Gold Coast airport but there will be limited seats available. Please advise Andrew Franks of your travel details well in advance to enable transport arrangements from the airport to be organised.

### By road

Dorrroughby is north-west of Ballina, north of Lismore and south of Brisbane and the Gold Coast. The Dorrroughby Environmental Education Centre is on Dunoon Road, off Dorrroughby Road.

## Scientific content

As with previous workshops there will be the opportunity to present either spoken or poster presentations during the evening sessions. If you would like to give a 15 minute presentation please provide a title in the space provided in the registration form.

## Registration includes

- Bus hire ● Full catering ● Accommodation
- Access to microscopes ● Access to scientific content

## How to Register

Register early as there are limited places available.

To register for the workshop please complete the form below and return, together with payment, to:

Post – Andrew Franks, Oberonia Botanical Services, PO Box 254, Ferny Hills DC, Qld, 4055

Email – [andrew@oberonia.com.au](mailto:andrew@oberonia.com.au)

It is not financially possible to provide personal insurance covering you as part of the workshop. Please ensure that you have adequate insurance cover for all eventualities, for the duration of the workshop including travel.

## Workshop supporters:



## Registration Fee

Standard Registration: A\$480 per person

*Registration fees include: accommodation, full catering, bus hire*

### Student Registration:

The Australian Bryophyte Group provides a discount on the registration fee to a select number of students who wish to attend the workshop. To be eligible you will need to give proof of enrolment and a presentation of your research, either as a poster or as a talk.

*To apply please contact Pina Milne ([pina.milne@rbg.vic.gov.au](mailto:pina.milne@rbg.vic.gov.au)).*

## Payment

### Bank transfer:

Acct Name: Dale C. Cargill & Josephine Milne  
BSB: 063 243  
Acct No.: 1033 3071

### Cheque:

Pay: Dale C. Cargill & Josephine Milne  
Send (with registration form): Andrew Franks  
Oberonia Botanical Services  
PO Box 254  
Ferny Hills DC, QLD 4055

### Further Information

For further information please contact the workshop co-ordinator:

Andrew Franks ([andrew@oberonia.com.au](mailto:andrew@oberonia.com.au))

## BBB Program Update for March 2018

For full program and more information download the PDF from our Facebook page or BBB website [www.byronbirdbuddies.com.au](http://www.byronbirdbuddies.com.au)

**What To Bring** - Always wear covered shoes and bring water, hat, sunscreen and insect repellent. Except for presentation days, always bring something to eat for morning or afternoon tea and lunch if it's over the lunch period. For presentation days bring a plate to share for morning or afternoon tea

**Contact** - for all BBB & BVBW Activities - Jan -02 66803279 or Mobile 0428864378

[byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com](mailto:byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com)

**Note:** For surveys, experience is not necessary. Beginners are welcomed at all outings which will provide an opportunity to learn about our birds and their habitat.

### Friday 9<sup>th</sup> - 8am - Exploring Byron Shire Bird

**Trails** – Discover & learn about our birds.

**Ocean Shores – Yalla Kool – to Devines Hill walk** – General Birdwatching - Birds of Byron Shire Birding Brochure **Site No 16**

**Meet** - End of Inderwong Avenue off Rajah Road, Ocean Shores

**Booking required** - [byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com](mailto:byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com)

**Note** –Cars will be parked at both Inderwong and Devines Hill; once walk is completed drivers can be driven back to their cars.

### Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> – 14.00 (2.pm) – 19.00 BBB - Presentation - Birds & Biodiversity & Guided Walk

**Booking required** - [byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com](mailto:byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com)

**Meet – At the Wetland Interpretive Centre** - Birds of Byron Shire Birding Brochure **Site No 16**. Take Bayshore Drive off Ewingsdale Road, go past the shopping centre (on the left) and turn next right into Wallum Place. If you have a key go to the carpark, if not wait at the gate and you will be let in.

**Cost** – just bring a plate to share & own drinks. BBB will supply tea and coffee.

### Other Northern River Group March Outings for bird-watching

**BirdLife Northern Rivers (BLNR)** [tweedbirds@bigpond.com](mailto:tweedbirds@bigpond.com)

**Sunday – 11<sup>th</sup> – 7.30am – 12noon - Rummery Park, Nightcap National Park** -Rummery Park campground is in the eastern part of Whian Whian State Conservation area.

Check out the website for details <http://www.birdlife.org.au/events/detail/birdlife-northern-rivers-outing40/birdlife-northern-nsw/> or Anne Jones at 0418 244 262 [jones.oz@gmail.com](mailto:jones.oz@gmail.com)

### Brunswick Valley Bird Watchers (BVBW)

Wednesday 14th (New Brighton Sportsfield) & 28<sup>th</sup> - to be advised - Contact [byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com](mailto:byronbirdbuddy@gmail.com) for details

### Ballina Shorebird 2020

Saturday 17th March at 9am "Ballina farewells the Flyway migrants – details to be confirmed or contact Hans Wohlmuth [hwohlmuth@gmail.com](mailto:hwohlmuth@gmail.com)



Forest Kingfisher - Bruce Mc Naughton

Best use of sustainable farm  
grown native timber

# Design Competition

SEED TO TREE TO PRODUCT

Prizes awarded at the  
**Sustainable Native Timber Showcase**  
Sunday 15 April

10am to 3pm Federal Hall

Enter now at [www.qualitytimbertraders.com](http://www.qualitytimbertraders.com)



Imagine decorating your house with furniture grown and harvested from a farm down the road and crafted by a local woodmaker.

It's not just a dream; local farmers are providing native timber such as Quandong, Silky Oak and Queensland Maple for local wood makers to put their creative skills to the test and enter the Sustainable Native Timber Showcase and Design Competition.

For that reason the focus for the Sustainable Native Timber Showcase and Design Competition is 'best use of sustainable farm grown native timbers'. The competition is now open to woodmakers, architects, designers and builders in the Northern Rivers and South East Queensland.

### **FREE Sustainable Timber Design Competition and Showcase Event**

Venue: **Federal Hall, Sunday April 15<sup>th</sup>**

Time: **10.00 – 2.00**

Go to [www.qualitytimbertraders.com.to](http://www.qualitytimbertraders.com.to) enter and view guidelines.



***In the Valley***  
Rainforest News and Views



In the Valley the newsletter for Wilsons Creek Huonbrook Landcare is now available to download.

[http://brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/In-the-Valley-18\\_1.pdf](http://brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/In-the-Valley-18_1.pdf)



The February issue of Village Eco News is now available. There's a great article on shore birds and also some sad news on contractors making a mess of a volunteer planting site.

<http://brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Village-Eco-News-Issue-19-March-2018.pdf>

## **Brunswick Valley Landcare office days**

Don't forget that Alison is working Monday, Thursday and Friday this year.

I will also be away in England from Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April until Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May. I will be checking and replying to emails during this time and will try to get the April newsletter out, but please bare in mind that replies to any emails may be a bit delayed during this time.

Many thanks for your patience.

## Green Innovation in Northern Rivers Schools

Trinity Catholic College has launched the inaugural Green Innovation Awards to encourage innovation and sustainability in our regions youth. Recognising Innovation, Team Work, Business Planning and Environmental Science, the awards aim to encourage students to innovate in a 'green' way and to carry this passion throughout their lives. The awards are open to any age group but will be judged in two categories- Primary School and Secondary School.

Students can build something to present or create a detailed plan of their idea to demonstrate innovation in one of four categories.

- Waterways management
- Biofuels/renewable energy
- Waste management
- Green products or recycling used in building or packaging

Finalists will then be selected from the entries received to present their project to the Green Innovation Awards Northern Rivers on Wednesday 30 May 2018. Contact [greeninnovationnr@hotmail.com](mailto:greeninnovationnr@hotmail.com) for an information pack. Students from participating schools can submit their entries until **Wednesday 11th April 2018**. <https://www.facebook.com/Green-Innovation-Awards-Northern-Rivers-366381843815762/>



Council has received a NSW Government grant to prepare a new Pest Animal Management Plan in consultation with state agencies, environmental groups and the community.

I want to listen to people impacted by pest animals to help determine priority pest animals and how best to manage them in a collaborative and coordinated approach within Byron Shire.

Have your say:

- complete our online survey before 9 April at <http://www.yoursaybyronshire.com.au/pest-animal-management-plan>
- attend one of our community Pest Cafe workshops on Wednesday 28 March at the Mullumbimby Civic Hall: 12.30 - 3.00pm or 5.30 - 8.00pm

Light refreshments will be provided and numbers are limited at each session. **Bookings essential** - please register your interest to attend at <http://www.yoursaybyronshire.com.au/pest-animal-management-plan>

## Biodiversity Conservation Trust – private land conservation

The trust is central to the native vegetation reforms that passed parliament in late 2016, with land managers set to access \$240 million over five years, and \$70 million per year ongoing, in exchange for conserving and managing important biodiversity on their land. On Friday Environment Minister Gabrielle Upton announced the not-for-profit Trust had made available \$37m for its first programs of 2018, including \$16m for on-farm projects.

"We will also invite tenders for up to \$2m to protect priority koala habitat, and we have allocated \$2m for fixed rate offers for conservation agreements in high priority investment areas and \$2m for Conservation Partners Grants," Trust chairman Robert Hill said.

The Trust has also committed \$15m to its Revolving Fund to purchase high conservation value properties to be resold to landholders committed to NSW's long tradition of private land conservation.

The Office of Environment and Heritage has also [released the Biodiversity Conservation Investment Strategy](#), which guides the Trust's investment. You can also find the map of priority investment areas on the website.



## We're changing how pest animals are managed in NSW

The NSW Government is taking a regional approach to pest animal management through the development of regional strategic pest animal management plans.



Major pest animals such as rabbits, carp, pigs, foxes and dogs to name a few are estimated to cost the NSW economy approximately \$170 million annually.



The plans will be developed in consultation with stakeholders and the community to ensure strong and responding pest animal risk management, that is outcomes focused and based on regional priorities.



A regional approach to pest animal management will ensure that pest animal management tools, actions and investments are catered to the needs and impacts experienced in each region.



The Draft Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plan will be available from 8 March at [www.ils.nsw.gov.au/pestplan](http://www.ils.nsw.gov.au/pestplan) and three community information sessions are being held. All sessions will commence at 11.00 am and conclude at 1.00 pm



Location: Kempsey  
Date: 13 March  
Venue: Kempsey RSL



Location: Coffs Harbour  
Date: 14 March  
Venue: CeX Club



Location: Lismore  
Date: 16 March  
Venue: Lismore City Hall



To RSVP contact David Merrikin  
6659 9404 or email  
[david.merrikin@ils.nsw.gov.au](mailto:david.merrikin@ils.nsw.gov.au)

## STORIES to inspire and give you hope

### Brunswick Valley Landcare Saving Our Species in Mullumbimby by Bela Allen



The Office of Environment and Heritage has asked Brunswick Valley Landcare to locate and protect a small, little-known shrub, Brush saropus, *Phyllanthus microcladus*. This endangered species only occurs in a few isolated NSW locations in the Tweed, Brunswick, Wilson and Richmond valleys, with an outlying population near Grafton. It is usually found on the banks of rivers and streams in rainforest and can grow to approx. 2m in height.

Our Brush saropus sleuths, Dave Rawlins and Jane Wickers, have been active in finding previously unmapped stands and recording the sites on a map. Wherever possible they will carry out weed control work to protect the shrub and, in some situations, will hand-weed around a Brush saropus stand to encourage new seedlings to emerge.

Some facts about Brush saropus are yet to be discovered. For example, we don't know how the small and inconspicuous flowers are pollinated, although in the Mullumbimby area fruit (a round smooth capsule about 3mm long hanging on a long thin stalk) is formed and seedlings emerge around the original shrub to form a dense clump. Therefore, we know the flowers are pollinated but

not which pollinator is responsible.

If you live in the Mullumbimby area and think you may have Brush saropus on your property please contact Jane Wickers email: [janeawickers@gmail.com](mailto:janeawickers@gmail.com).

Be aware, Brush saropus may be mistaken for small leaf privet as it has a similar growth habit and appearance. For a great description you can visit Plantnet <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Phyllanthus~microcladus>

To find out more you can visit the OEH Website

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedSpeciesApp/profile.aspx?id=10624>

## Successful Funding by Goonengerry Landcare, Byrangery Grass Reserve Trust and

### Wilsons Creek Huonbrook Landcare

In 2015 a local consortium made up of Goonengerry Landcare Inc, Wilsons Creek Huonbrook Landcare Inc and Byrangery Grass Reserve Trust applied for and were successful in obtaining \$499,204 of funding under the Bush Connect program. The project is called "Restoration and linkage of Wilsons and Coopers Creek".

The project has been working to enhance connectivity and functioning of native forests surrounding four publicly owned Protected Areas (three National Parks and one Reserve). Exotic species are being controlled and 110 hectares of native forest regenerated by encouraging seed bank germination. Forests of structural integrity, mostly Endangered Ecological Communities that support 47 threatened species of flora and fauna, will be self-maintaining in the long-term.

Bush Connect was a one-off contestable grants program funded by the NSW Environmental Trust in 2015, seeking to achieve long-term outcomes for the NSW environment within the Great Eastern Ranges.

Early this year we were successful in receiving a further \$99,344 in funding to expand the project to

include a further 22 Ha. Three new property owners were selected to participate through an Expression of Interest process. The project is converting Lantana and Camphor Laurel infestations to endemic forest.

*These 4 photos were taken from 2013 – 2015 on a Lantana site adjacent to a current Bush Connect Project in Huonbrook. The 3<sup>rd</sup> photo was taken 2 years after the primary work. The site is north-west facing and extremely hot which resulted in exceptional growth rates. The Lantana infestation was 80 years old resulting in a well developed seed bank. At 4 years old, the site now consists of over 50 new species of trees and that number will continue to increase. The red circle is around a person to give scale and show the height of the regenerating forest.*



# Land for Wildlife

## Land for Wildlife “Champions” field day by Alison Ratcliffe

On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March we visited Peter and Julie Ryan’s property who have been members of Land for Wildlife for 5 years. Over the last 12 years they have worked hard to transform this ex-banana farm into a thriving native forest. 29 participants heard from Alan and Stacey Franks from Hollow Log Homes about the different animals and birds that use nest boxes. Did you know that greater gliders need 30 hollows in their home range! Alan also showed us some great low cost versions of hollows made from plant pots. We got to see a neighbouring ‘before’ farm that has had no regen work done on it and is thick with weeds. We then walked through the regenerated forest on the Ryan’s property and heard from Julie on how she has gradually tackled small sections at a time.



**Foundation for  
National Parks  
& Wildlife**



The field day was possible through funding from the Foundation for National Parks and Wildlife.

↓ Photo below - the “before” farm - Julie Ryan talking about how their farm looked like this when they bought it – covered in weeds and bananas.



← ↑ Before and after photos of the conversion from bananas to forest – before is in 2006 and after is 2018.



→ Photo to right - the “after” farm – watching Alan install a nest box surrounded by regenerated forest.





## Plant some purple by Backyard Buddies

Purple Pea Bush, *Hovea acutifolia*, is a native Australian shrub that grows between 1 to 4 metres tall and is covered in masses of purple flowers during winter and spring. The branches are covered in dense hairs and the seeds “pop” out.

It grows on the central eastern coast, from south-east Queensland to the NSW central coast. It can be easily grown in a garden as long as it has well-drained soil and partial shade. It prefers its natural humid rainforest-like conditions but has adapted well to temperate and sub-tropical environments. It is very popular in Brisbane backyards.

As well as being a beautiful and colourful addition to your garden, the Purple Pea Bush also attracts some friendly visitors. Bees, including native bees, see purple better than any other colour so will zero in on your pea bush. It is a dense bush that will provide small native birds with protection from predators and shelter from the weather and attracts insects for them to feed on.

Very hardy, the Pea Bush will nicely fill a shady spot in your garden with its green foliage and then burst into a riot of colour from mid-winter, just in time for the Spring bees to arrive.

<http://www.backyardbuddies.org.au/backyard-buddies/purple-pea-bush?A=SearchResult&SearchID=2901101&ObjectID=7370214&ObjectType=35>



## Maligned dingoes emerge as unlikely heroes in study of bushfires and feral pests

by Cherie von Hörchner ABC Country Hour

The dingo's classification as a pest ignores the benefits it brings, say researchers.

**The much-maligned dingo has emerged as an unlikely hero in a study of the relationship between bushfires and feral pests.**

A team from Charles Sturt University and Deakin University focused on the arid Mallee region of north-western Victoria to discover how foxes, cats and other pests capitalised on burnt-off areas in their pursuit of native wildlife.

"A big part of the study was looking at how introduced predators actually interact with fire," said Associate Professor Dale Nimmo. "There's this idea that these predators are taking advantage of burnt areas, getting into them when all the vegetation's gone after fire, and just hunting all the native mammals towards extinction," he said.

To read the rest of the story please visit <http://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/2018-02-25/bushfire-dingo-feral-animal-study-pest/9478270>

## 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/>

### Restoration and Rehabilitation grants - now open for applications

The NSW Environmental Trust is now inviting applications to the 2018 round of its Restoration and Rehabilitation Grants Program.

A total of \$4 million is available to the following organisations for projects that assist in the ongoing sustainable management and stewardship of significant environmental assets and services in NSW:



- \$2 million for projects by community organisations
- \$2 million for projects by government entities

Grants of between \$5,000 and \$100,000 are available. Applications close **3pm Monday 26 March 2018**. Guidelines, application forms and a range of resources are available on the [Trust's website](#).

### Grants Hub Volunteer Support Grant

#### Do any of our volunteers need training – first aid certificates or the like?

A Volunteer Support Grant to the value of \$500 is available to a person acting in a regular volunteering role. Any person, anywhere in Australia, acting in a regular volunteer role for a period of 6 months or more is eligible to apply for funding to cover travel costs, training, equipment or other costs related to supporting your role as a volunteer. Applications close Thursday 15th March 2018.

<https://www.thegrantshub.com.au/giving/>

### National Landcare Program:

#### Environment small grants

The Government is providing \$5 million in small grants to community, landcare, environment and other natural resource management groups to deliver natural resource management activities that improve the quality of the local environment. The Government is providing \$5 million in small grants to community, landcare, environment and other natural resource management groups to deliver natural resource management activities that improve the quality of the local environment.

Eligible activities must directly relate to the project and must include one or more of the following:

- weed treatment
- pest or disease management
- fencing
- erosion management
- revegetation
- education activities and raising community awareness/participation
- access management
- indigenous land and sea country planning
- recording of indigenous ecological knowledge
- administration support related to the project.

The grant will be up to 100 per cent of eligible project expenditure. The minimum grant amount is \$5,000 and the maximum grant amount is \$50,000. The maximum grant period is 12 months. Applications close at **5pm AEDT 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018**. <http://www.nrm.gov.au/national-landcare-program>



National  
Landcare  
Program



## Potter Foundation Funds

Expressions of interest for funding from the Ian Potter Foundation are now open. This round will consider applications for international learning and development, conferences and travel. Next round opens on the 26<sup>th</sup> March

More? <http://www.ianpotter.org.au/funding-rounds/>



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## Wettenhall Environment Trust Small Grants Scheme

The Small Environmental Grant Scheme provides support for people undertaking projects that will make a positive difference to the natural living environment, in land, sea or air, rural or urban. There are only opening dates, no closing dates - they close the round when satisfied that there are a suitable number and spread of applications. So it's best to get in as soon as you can when the round opens.



20th March 2018 (funding in May 2018), 19th June 2018 (funding in August 2018), 18th September (funding in November 2018), 11th December 2018 (Funding in February 2019) [Find out more or apply here.](#)

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## Jetstar's Flying Start Program

Jetstar's Flying Start Program invites community groups across Australia to apply for a grant to fund projects that enrich the lives of people in their local community.

Tell Jetstar about your project and you could receive a \$30,000 grant, which includes \$15,000 cash and \$15,000 worth of travel anywhere on the Jetstar network.

Entry is open to not-for-profit organisations. **Applications close 31 March 2018.**

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## Community Resilience Innovation Program (CRIP)

The CRIP supports a broad range of community-led projects designed to increase all-hazard disaster preparedness and build community capacity and resilience. CRIP projects are based on collaboration and partnership between local community organisations and emergency management agencies. Applicants should apply online before midnight 26 March 2018.

<https://www.emergency.nsw.gov.au/Pages/emergency-management/Funding-Programs/community-resilience/Community-Resilience-Innovation-Program.aspx>

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## FRRR Small Grants for Rural Communities

More than \$350,000 is available in grants of up to \$5,000 to enable local not-for-profit groups to implement projects and activities that strengthen their communities. Priority is given to projects in communities of 10,000 people or fewer. Applicants should carefully review the guidelines, and apply through their Grants Gateway. There are also links to case studies of previously funded projects on their website. Applications close 28th March 2018. <http://www.frrr.org.au/grants/small-grants-for-rural-communities-round33.php>

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## Layne Beachley Aim for the Stars

The Layne Beachley Foundation's Scholarship Program provides grants, mentoring and inspiration to young Australian women who dream and dream BIG! Scholarships are awarded annually in many areas including environment and sustainability, leadership and community. Applicants must be at least 12 years of age. Applications close 31 March. Apply online. Winners announced on 1 July 2018.

<https://www.laynebeachleyfoundation.org.au/>

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## Churchill Fellowships

A Churchill Fellowship can offer Australian citizens an opportunity to travel overseas to investigate a topic or an issue that they might be passionate about. Applications close 27 April

2018. <https://www.churchilltrust.com.au/>

## Weed of the Month

This month's weed of the month is Broad-leaved Pepper Tree, Brazilian Pepper Tree, Christmas Berry Tree *Schinus terebinthifolius*.

A shrub or small tree originating from Argentina, southern Brazil, and eastern Paraguay. It can grow up to 10 m tall and has leaves that are bronze-green, pinnate with 3-9 leaflets. The leaflets are opposite with no leaflet-stalk, elliptic, terminal leaflet slightly larger than others.

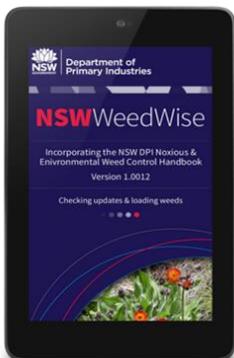
The flowers are white and the fruit is a glossy red. The seed is dispersed by birds and water.

It is extremely invasive, forming dense thickets which displace native vegetation. It prefers waterlogged or poorly drained soils in coastal areas, along the edges of mangrove forest (in moist soil just above high water mark, riparian areas, and disturbed bushland in low-lying areas.

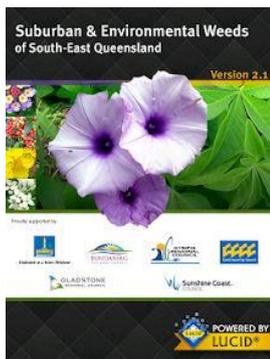
It was established as planted specimens in Byron Bay (next to the old council chambers) and in Ocean Shores. It is spreading into bushland and riparian zones around New Brighton, Paterson St Byron Bay and adjacent Nature Reserves.

Similar Native Species : *Cupaniopsis anacardioides* (similar leaf). Broad-leaved Pepper tree leaves smell of pepper when crushed.

Unfortunately the new Byron Shire Council website will not include the weed information sheets. You can however find more information and other weed info on the Department of Primary Industries website <http://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/>



Or you can download their weed wise APP onto your phone or tablet. NSW WeedWise presents information for over 300 noxious and environmental weeds in NSW, including Profiles, Control (including herbicide options). <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/images/topic-images/biosecurity/weeds2/images/wid-documents/weed-wise-spotlight>



There is also another good free APP – Suburban and Environmental Weeds of South East Queensland. SE QLD shares many of the same weeds as us. [https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.lucidcentral.mobile.sew\\_full&hl=en](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.lucidcentral.mobile.sew_full&hl=en)

## What does Rous County Council do?

Rous County Council (RCC) is constituted under the *Local Government Act 1993*, and was specifically formed to provide certain functions for the local councils in which we operate.

RCC has three specific responsibilities:

- Bulk water supply
- Flood mitigation
- Weed biosecurity

Similar to a local council, RCC is governed by a group of councillors, two from each of the four constituent councils of Lismore, Byron Bay, Richmond Valley and Ballina. The councillors meet in the RCC council chambers on a regular basis to discuss and decide on strategic issues related to the organisation's responsibilities.

In the weed biosecurity area, RCC uses the weeds listed in the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and the Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan to guide our activities and those of the community. The regional plan sorts weeds into categories in order of priority based on their level of threat, current distribution and feasibility to control.

### What we do

- Provide the Local Control Authority function with respect to weed biosecurity under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and *Biosecurity Regulations 2017*.
- Conduct property inspections for compliance with the Act.
- Identify, inspect and treat high risk sites and pathways, and develop weed management plans for the region including rapid response plans for new incursions.
- Control high priority weeds on roadsides, and rapid response control to new weed incursions.
- Create and distribute weed education material including flyers and media releases, "best practice" advice, and information on weed control.
- Provide plant identification assistance.
- Deliver training and information to landholder and community groups and schools, at workshops and field days.
- Provide access to biological control agents through the Department of Primary Industries

### We don't

- Spray common roadside weeds or control common weeds on Public land.
- Control weeds on private property as contractors, or for free. We also cannot advertise or recommend private contractors for weed spraying.
- Become involved in discussions between neighbouring landholders regarding common weeds.

### Landholder responsibilities

Look around your property regularly for any new weed incursions. Know your weeds and where they are categorised under the regional plan. Manage your own property to eradicate the weed or minimise (depending on the weed) the risk of weeds spreading.

For more information contact Rous County Council Weed Biosecurity on 66 233847.

## 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

- 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>
- Friends of the Koala [www.friendsofthekoala.org](http://www.friendsofthekoala.org)
- Local Land Services [www.northcoast.ils.nsw.gov.au](http://www.northcoast.ils.nsw.gov.au)
- North Coast Local Land Services <http://northcoast.ils.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/>
- Rous County Council (formerly Far North Coast Weeds) <http://rous.nsw.gov.au/>
- 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://www.wilsonscreeklandcare.mullum.com.au/>
- Wetlandcare Australia <http://www.wetlandcare.com.au/index.php>

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@brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au](mailto:alison@brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au)



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Local Land  
Services  
North Coast

