



Newsletter for Landcare and Dunecare in Byron Shire



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

September 2020

Mooibal Spur Corridor Restoration ET Grant

To help raise driver awareness we have installed these amazing signs along Leftbank Road, Mullumbimby as part of the Mooibal spur grant funded by the Environmental Trust, in partnership with Bangalow Koalas, who supplied the signs.

Two koalas have been recently sighted in the neighbourhood – 1 on Tristran Parade and the other on Davidson Place off Melaleuca Drive, Mullumbimby. Please take care when driving. Also keep dogs contained and when walking your dog, keep it on a lead. Thank you!



This project has been assisted by the NSW Government through it's Environmental Trust.

Yallakool Reserve Restoration project

Congratulations and thank you to the hardworking team at Yallakool Reserve in Ocean Shores who have been committed to restoring the natural values of the site for the past 20 years! Some of the benefits include erosion control, habitat and biodiversity enhancement. Here are the before and after photos of the tree planting in the gully on the eastern side of the reserve, in just 3 years this gully has been totally transformed!



Social Media Volunteer for BVL

You may have read that the BVL website is undergoing renovation. Yes! In the next few months a new-look website will be launched.

We are looking for a savvy social media person to parallel our Website people, to post information on our Facebook and Instagram pages. The demands won't be high, maybe an hour or so a week on average and the occasional visit to a BVL event such as a workshop, a planting, or a field day (free eats and drinks included!). If you'd like to contribute to the community work BVL does and have digital media skills, please get in touch. Thanks! info@brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au



Webinar Series

Small Healthy Farms Biosecurity on the North Coast

North Coast Local Land Services invite you to a two-part series about how to make sure your small farm or lifestyle property is healthy and resistant to diseases, weeds and pests.



10 September
Animal Health &
Managing Pest Animals

17 September
Managing Weeds &
Farm Biosecurity

Running a small farm or bush block can involve a lot more than you may think. Preventing the introduction and spread of diseases, pests and weeds onto your land is one of the most important things a landholder can do, and there are many factors that play into your decision making.

Come along to this FREE two-part webinar series to learn about weed management, animal health and biosecurity basics for your property including the most important weeds and pests to look out for at the moment in the North Coast region.

Every Bit Counts is a program delivering events and information for small landholders on the North Coast.

Two Part Webinar Series

Animal Health and Managing Pest Animals

Thursday 10 September 2020 12:00 pm

Register at: <https://adobe.ly/2DHVAMk>

Managing Weeds and Farm Biosecurity

Thursday 17 September 2020 12:00 pm

Register at: <https://adobe.ly/3amJ1Sp>

For more information contact the webinar hosts

Ella Rasmussen : Every Bit Counts North Coast Coordinator

T: 0438 173 135 E: ella.rasmussen@lls.nsw.gov.au



Local Land
Services

Central West and Central
Tablelands Local Land Services,
together with Central West
and Central Tablelands
Landcare NSW

Future Proof Your Business

Rebound from drought and position yourself to create opportunities with resilience leader, Paul Ryan.

What is resilience and why does it matter?

17 September, 2020 - 12.00pm to 12.45pm

Framing resilience, language and definitions, and discussing why building resilience matters in a farming business.

REGISTER

Key resilience concepts – Systems, change and identity

1 October, 2020 - 12.00pm to 12.45pm

Discuss the links between people and place, and learn about the 'stress curve' and how it can affect you.

REGISTER

Understanding resilience in your system

15 October, 2020 - 12.00pm to 12.45pm

Using the Iceberg model to understand system change, and talking through cycles of change.

REGISTER

Designing resilient futures

29 October, 2020 - 12.00pm to 12.45pm

Discussing resilience design principles, and implementing them.

REGISTER



This project is supported by Local Land Services, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare program and NSW Landcare Program.

Fire stuff

The fire season has officially started in six Local Government Areas across northern NSW.

In communities like Delungra, work is already underway to equip locals with knowledge on cultural burning to better manage the land in the winter months.

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=3294875760599996>

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-08-25/nsw-government-to-accept-all-bushfire-inquiry-recommendations/12592164>



Big Scrub Rainforest Day

This year Big Scrub Rainforest Day is taking a new and exciting format, in response to Covid19 constraints, providing even greater opportunity for people far and wide to get involved. To celebrate the 22nd annual event, Big Scrub Landcare is switching to an online format, taking place on Sunday 20th September. This year's topical theme 'Saving our Rainforests from Fire' will be relevant to all members of our north coast community and communities further afield. The feature of this year's event is two panel discussions facilitated by well-known ABC journalists Kerry O'Brien and Mick O'Regan. The experienced panels will discuss important issues related to the recent bushfires in and around Nightcap National Park

<https://www.bigscrubrainforest.org/big-scrub-rainforest-day-2020/>

Big Scrub Rainforest Day 2020
SAVING OUR RAINFORESTS FROM FIRE
Lessons learned from Nightcap National Park

Watch the panel discussion online
Sunday, 20 Sep 2020, 6pm

Moderated by award winning journalists

Featuring expert panelists:
Dr Robert Kooyman
Andy Baker
Matt Wiseman
Dave Kelly
Olliver Costello
David Milledge

Kerry O'Brien Mick O'Regan

Big Scrub Landcare
The Voice of the Rainforest

Watch and register for free at www.bigscrubrainforest.org

Bushfire Conference 2021

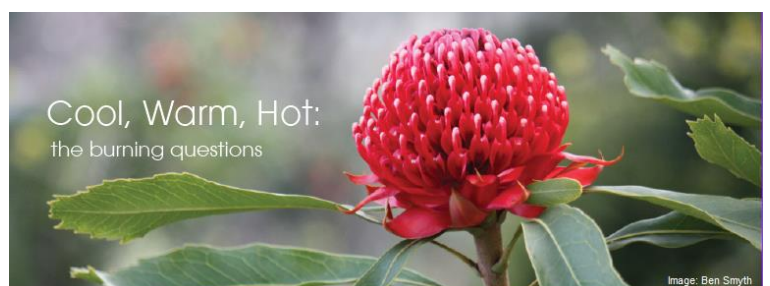
Due to COVID-19, our Biennial Bushfire Conference scheduled for May 2020 was postponed. We now have a new date for your diaries:

Tuesday 4th of May & Wednesday 5th of May 2021

We will keep you informed throughout the coming months including any changes due to pandemic restrictions to ensure the safety of you and our wider community. Stay tuned for more information to come.

Contact: (02) 9516 0359 or NCCBushfireConference@nature.org.au - email us at this address to subscribe to the conference mailing list.

<https://www.nature.org.au/healthy-ecosystems/bushfire-program/bushfire-conference-2021/>





The August issue of the Wilsons Creek Huonbrook Landcare newsletter is now available

<https://brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/WCHL-newsletter-August-2020.pdf>

STORIES to inspire and give you hope

Australian River Restoration Centre

Our brand new Resources Centre for Rivers of Carbon shares the science and practice of what we have learnt over the years we have been working in river and riparian management.



We have organised the Resources Centre against topics to make it super easy to navigate, and divided up the web pages, downloadable PDFs and videos, so you can access what you need quickly 😊

<http://riversofcarbon.org.au/resources-centre>

Gliders:

With large eyes to capture more of the light at night, they've adapted to watch for owls, quolls and pythons, but their biggest threat – humankind – has increasingly encroached on their territory, destroying old-growth forest and its sheltering, century-old treehollow

sanctuaries. Some gliders have even been recorded doing a U-turn in mid-air. Furry, cuddly and sometimes curious, possums and gliders are among Australia's best-loved residents and a fascinating feature of night-life in the bush.



Hissing, growling or completely silent, they perform a circus act of acrobatic feats, the larger gliders spreading their gliding membranes to travel more than 100 m at a single jump.

<https://www.australiangeographic.com.au/topics/wildlife/2019/07/a-guide-to-all-27-species-of-australias-possums-and-gliders/>

Article source: Australian Geographic, Ken Eastwood

Gouldian Finches making a comeback

The return of the Gouldian Finches! These beautiful little birds had all but disappeared from Queensland, where the species is listed as endangered, however they have recently been reported in flocks of 200!

<https://www.australiangeographic.com.au/topics/wildlife/2020/08/the-return-of-the-gouldians/>



Source: Australian Geographic Amanda Freeman



Thank you to Fiona from FoK and Firewheel nursery for sending in this amazing photo of *Eupomatia bennettii* small Bolwarra at Goolmangar

Mother bats use baby talk to talk to their pups!

During their first three months of life, as *S. bilineata* pups start experimenting with their 'speech,' female and male adult bats respond to them differently. Mother bats interact with pups as they "babble," which could be interpreted as positive feedback to pups during vocal practice.

<https://phys.org/news/2020-08-mother-baby-pups.html>

Article source: Smithsonian tropical research institute



How Plants Close the Door on Infection

Plants have a unique ability to safeguard themselves against pathogens by closing their pores—but until now, no one knew quite how they did it. Scientists have known that a flood of calcium into the cells surrounding the pores triggers them to close, but how the calcium entered the cells was unclear.

[How Plants Close the Door on Infection](#)

Article source: University of Maryland



Earth's water came from space, but not in the way we thought.

Earth has vast oceans today, but our planet was a dry rock when it first formed — and water was a late addition, rained down in asteroids from the icy outer solar system.

Water is abundant in space and is made up of hydrogen created in the Big Bang and oxygen released from dying stars.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/science/2020-08-28/where-did-earths-water-come-from/12598198>

Article source ABC Science / By Anna Salleh



Indigenous cat hunters with expert tracking skills could help protect native species, research says.

Each week at the edge of the Gibson Desert in the most remote community in Australia, a group of Pintupi Traditional Owners, mostly women follow fresh tracks by foot through the spinifex grasslands ready to catch and kill a feral cat.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-09-13/indigenous-cat-hunting-underrated-tool-in-conservation/12642676>

Article source: ABC Kimberley / By Tyne Logan



REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE

A Regenerative Secret - Kiss The Ground

Narrated and featuring Woody Harrelson, Kiss the Ground is an inspiring and ground breaking film that reveals the first viable solution to our climate crisis.



[Vhttps://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n2W8dKdgGhc&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n2W8dKdgGhc&feature=youtu.be)

An inspiring video and article on a young farmer's decision to adopt Regen Ag principles Case Study - Retaining Water in the Land

Maddy Pursehouse's property Rothesay in Blackville NSW was the subject of an abridged Soils For Life case study last year. She is one of 21 farmers that are joining forces as a Landcare group and partnering with North West Local Land Services on the Upper Mooki Rehydration Project. The project is only one of a few in Australia that is focused on retaining water in the land, rather than only considering water supplies on the land, such as in dams, creeks and rivers.



[Watch the video and access the full report here.](#)

Source: Soils for life

Young farmers are taking up the challenge of living on the land and say a 'seismic shift' is coming

Despite extreme climates, fickle markets and massive debts, a new generation of young, educated farmers continues to take on the challenge of making a living off the land. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-09-04/young-farmers-land-ownerhip-shifts-to-next-generation/12533696>



Source: ABC Southern Qld/ By Nathan Morris

Insects are delicious and nutritious. Are city insect farms the protein providers of the future?

Here's a tip. If you've ever been curious about eating insects, start with crickets — they're delicious. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/science/2020-08-29/insect-farming-food-future/12434798> Source: ABC Science / Nick Kilvert

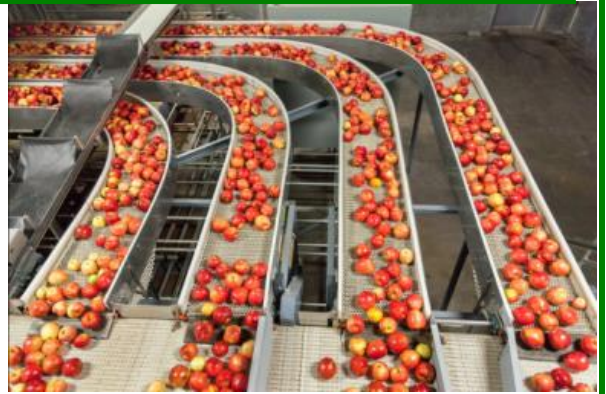


FRUIT traceability app modernising aus ag industry

THE University of Tasmania (UTAS) has been awarded \$455,000 by the Federal Government to develop an app that can be used to both promote and trace Australia's fruit exports as part of a Government Grant program designed to modernise Australia's agriculture industry.

Read the [full story...](#)

Article Source: The Australian Farmer.



Natural fungicide and bactericide poised to save the banana

A natural fungicide and bactericide is motivating the multi-billion-dollar agricultural industry with promises of ending one of the most serious fungi on bananas plants, Banana Wilt, aka Panama Disease, FOC TR4. The consequences for the global farm workers, consumers and the planet are staggering. Salveo's Tectus Matrix is a patent-pending, broad-spectrum natural and organic fungicide and bactericide liquid that controls and mitigates fungal and bacterial diseases in food, as well as ornamental crops and does not cause pathogenic mutations.

Source: Hortidaily

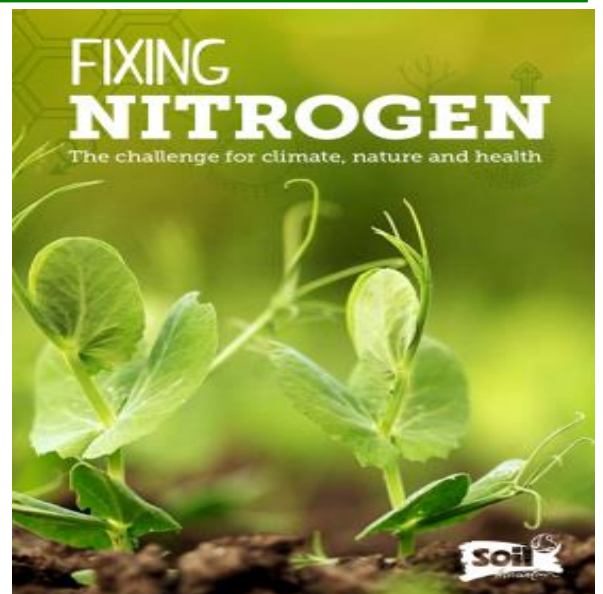


What is the Problem with Nitrogen?

Nitrogen is an element essential for all life on earth and vital in food and farming. But, when used in excess, nitrogen becomes a dangerous pollutant of our air, rivers, soils and seas.

<https://www.soilassociation.org/our-campaigns/fixing-nitrogen-the-challenge-for-climate-nature-and-health/>

Source: Soil association



DRONES trailed in horticulture to release predatory wasps to reduce chemical use

DRONE-loads of predatory wasps descending onto crops of growing vegetables may seem menacing, but the tactic is helping farmers lessen their impact on the Great Barrier Reef. Read the [full story...](#)
Article Source: Melanie Groves, ABC Rural



Land for Wildlife

Science, technology and research are the backbones of the



Saving our Species takes the best practice approach in conservation science activities, with 400+ on-ground projects.

Over 80 staff across the state use their expertise in botany, zoology, and ecology to support more than 300 threatened species. Additional staff in the SoS Development team bring innovative new approaches to large-scale conservation across the state. In 2019-20, we published about 30 scientific papers, supported over 20 external research projects and partnered with 22 university and lab-based researchers - all with the goal of securing a future for threatened species in NSW.



The SEED Citizen Science Hub has arrived!

This month, you can explore the various ways you can do your bit for threatened NSW species by taking a tour of our new Citizen Science Hub, find out about how science and technology are helping to conserve a critically endangered turtle and listen to our new SoS podcast, which delves into the business of biodiversity.

The new hub has been set up to support and grow citizen science in NSW and is a one-stop-shop for you to explore projects, events and opportunities across NSW. Connect with people, link your project(s) or create a new project using expert step by step guidance to contribute, share and access environmental data - all through the SEED platform.



How science and technology are helping threatened species

To celebrate National Science Week, we're showing you how experts from the Saving our Species program are using science and technology to conserve the critically endangered Bellinger River snapping turtle.

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/news/how-science-and-technology-are-helping-recovery-of-threatened-turtles>



Call out for catchy names to revamp 8 NSW threatened plants

173 of our most beautiful and unique native species are known only by their scientific names, which are hard to pronounce and even trickier to remember. We want you to suggest new names for 8 unnamed threatened species found in NSW.



Native owls, lizards dying after eating mice and rats poisoned with Ratsak

The better alternative referred to in this article (link below) is Racumin or install owl nest boxes on your property.

<https://click.mail->

[list.abc.net.au/?qs=3065a23acd7a8fe0df10180ae2633cc867bfab4cfe1a784094faba5e58968be12668f659079765fe8de53b04e23aad9ddfca1f11e2f3e64232987499c3722364](https://click.mail-list.abc.net.au/?qs=3065a23acd7a8fe0df10180ae2633cc867bfab4cfe1a784094faba5e58968be12668f659079765fe8de53b04e23aad9ddfca1f11e2f3e64232987499c3722364)

ABC Mid West & Wheatbelt



FUNDING

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

On the Brunswick Valley Landcare website there are 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/>

Fish Habitat Action Grants

The Habitat Action Grants are funded from the Recreational Fishing Trusts which direct funding generated by the NSW Recreational Fishing Fee towards onground actions to improve fish habitat and recreational fishing in NSW.



Angling clubs, individuals, community groups, local councils and organisations interested in rehabilitating fish habitats in freshwater and saltwater areas throughout NSW can apply for small grants of \$2,000 or large grants of up to \$40,000.

Habitat rehabilitation projects which may be funded include:

removal or modification of barriers to fish passage

rehabilitation of riparian lands (river banks, wetlands, mangrove forests, saltmarsh)

re-snagging waterways with timber structure

removal of exotic vegetation from waterways and replace with native species

bank stabilisation works

reinstatement of natural flow regimes

<https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/habitat/rehabilitating/ahr-grants-program> Strengthening Rural Communities

Small & Vital - up to \$10,000 grants available. Communities in non-metropolitan areas with fewer than 15,000 people are prioritised.



Growing good gardens grant

https://www.frrr.org.au/grants/Strengthening_Rural_Communities

Closing: 2 October 2020 at 5pm.

If you're 18-35, this is your chance to apply for a grant of up to \$22,000 to fund your project on an innovative or emerging scientific issue that will benefit Australia's primary industries



Pest research funding

Attention all researchers!

Do you have an innovative solution for managing and controlling some of Australia's most invasive established pest animal and weed species?

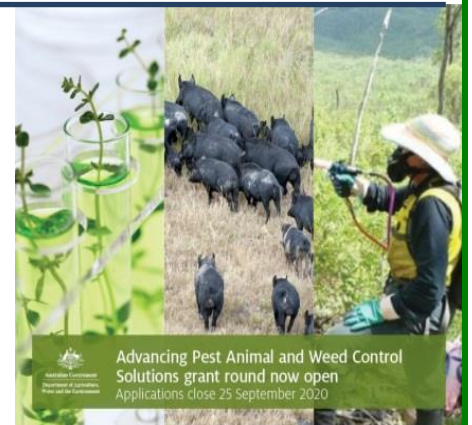
How about a control that is close to ready, but just requires a bit more investment? The federal government wants to know!

The \$13 million Advancing Pest Animal and Weed Control Solutions competitive grant round is now open for applications.

The grant round is an opportunity for eligible organisations to advance nationally important research to develop innovative control solutions for established pest animals and weeds.

The closing date for applications is 25 September 2020, so get in quick!

For more information, or to submit an application, visit the Grant Connect website: <https://bit.ly/3k629Zb>



National Landcare Program: Smart Farms Small Grants Round 4

The Australian Government is inviting applications for projects to deliver services under the National Landcare Program – Smart Farms Small Grants Round 4.

Smart Farms Small Grants is an open, competitive, grant opportunity to support projects to increase farming, forestry and fishing communities' awareness, knowledge, skills and capacity to adopt best practice sustainable agriculture.

The purpose of Smart Farms Small Grants is to support land manager practice change that will deliver more sustainable, productive and profitable food, fibre and forestry business while protecting Australia's biodiversity; protecting and improving the condition of natural resources; and assisting Australia meet its international obligations.

The purpose will be achieved by supporting projects that contribute to achieving one or both of the program outcomes outlined below:

Outcome 1 – Increased adoption of best practice sustainable agriculture

Outcome 2 – Increase the capacity of land managers to adopt best practice sustainable agriculture

Closing Date & Time 9 October 2020 - 11:00pm AEDT

<https://www.communitygrants.gov.au/grants/smart-farms>

Weed of the Month

Japanese climbing fern

Scientific Name

Lygodium japonicum (Thunb.) Sw.

Family

Lygodiaceae (Western Australia and the Northern Territory)

Schizaeaceae (Queensland and New South Wales)

Common Names

climbing fern, Japanese climbing fern

Origin

Native to southern and eastern China, Japan, Korea, the Indian sub-continent (i.e. Bhutan, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka) and south-eastern Asia (i.e. Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea and the Philippines).

Naturalised Distribution

Naturalised in some parts of northern and eastern Australia (i.e. in south-eastern Queensland, in the coastal districts of central New South Wales, and near Darwin in the northern parts of the Northern Territory). Japanese climbing fern (*Lygodium japonicum*) is regarded as an environmental weed in New South Wales and south-eastern Queensland and is a potential environmental weed in northern Australia. This fast growing species has escaped cultivation as a garden ornamental and become naturalised in wetter forests and riparian areas. It twines around the stems and branches of trees and shrubs and can reach up into the canopy of forests.



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 Jude Alcorn
CONTACT: Jude Alcorn 0411 298 356 judealcorn@yahoo.com.au

Ocean Shores Landcare, Ocean Shores

WHEN: each Friday at 8.30 – 11.00 am (8.00am DST)
WHERE: corner of Yallakool Drive and Warrambool Road, Ocean Shores
CONTACT: David Kemp dnkemp77@gmail.com 0427 650 861

South New Brighton Dunecare

WHEN: 1st Friday of the month 1:30pm - 4:30pm
WHERE: Meet at southern end of the Esplanade at the Strand beach access point.
CONTACT: Robyn Bolden robyn.bolden@optusnet.com.au 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

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.greateasternranges.org.au/border-ranges/overview/overview>
- Bangalow Koalas <http://www.bangalowkoalas.com.au/>
- Bangalow River and Landcare <http://www.bangalowlandcare.org.au/>
- Big Scrub Landcare <https://www.bigscrubrainforest.org.au/>
- Brunswick Valley Landcare <http://www.brunswickvalleylandcare.org.au/>
- Byron Bird Buddies <http://www.byronbirdbuddies.com.au/>
- Byron Community College <http://www.byroncollege.org.au/>
- Byron Shire Council <http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/>
- EnviTE www.envite.org.au
- Environmental Trust <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/envitrust.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, Tuesday, Wednesday) aratcliffe@byron.nsw.gov.au

Project Officer, Rochelle Merdith

6626 7201 (Friday) rmerdith@byron.nsw.gov.au



This newsletter is supported by Byron Shire Council.

