



DECEMBER 2013

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It has been a big year for Northern Landcare Support Services spent supporting landholder and community groups in gaining funding for on ground projects, providing training and resources, and educating the community about all things Landcare.

NLSS have been involved in field days including a Cane Toad Muster and a recent look at bush restoration on a property in Jiggi, NLSS have also delivered over 8 workshops with diverse topics including grant writing, sustainable horse management, barks and trunk identification, dung beetles, ecological regeneration, and nest box installation.

NLSS staff have also been out and about working with schools, at shows, markets, and conferences, assessing Land For Wildlife properties and promoting the work of local Landcare groups and individuals.

This year has also seen lots of on ground too. Work has been continuing on some innovative projects including work with dairy farmers trialling biological farming methods such as composting manures and other organic additives and assessing changes in soil condition over 3 years.

Work has been continuing on The Dirawong project which will wrap up early 2014. The Dirawong is an area of Crown Land made up of coastal heath, wetlands and headlands of over 200 hectares adjoining the village of Evans Head. The Dirawong Reserve trust that manage the area received funding through the NSW Government's Environmental Trust Program for a three-year project to complete bushland restoration work. The aim was to rid the Dirawong Bitou Bush, Glory Lily and Coastal Tea Tree, legacies from the era of sand mining.

2014 will see the start of some new projects for NLSS. NLSS have funding for on ground works on a project with Roseberry Creek Landcare. The main aim of the project is to improve resilience, health and extent of the threatened species habitat that has been fragmented and degraded by past land management practices in Roseberry Creek sub-catchment. This area contains threatened species such as Giant Barred Frogs, Koalas, Brush-tailed Phascogales, Barking Owls, Powerful Owls and Wompoo Pigeons. It was also the place of the last sightings of endangered Coxen's Fig Parrots.

The NRCMA Small Grant Program this year is being delivered in partnership between NRCMA and NLSS and successful projects for the 2013-2014 year will be announced soon.

NLSS continues its work on the voluntary community trapping program for Indian Mynas with assistance from Kyogle High school and Kyogle Council. This is resulting in a reduction in the numbers of the feral birds on the southern side of town.

If you are receiving this newsletter by post this will be our last paper version that will be posted out. Please contact us and provide your current email address if you would still like to receive the newsletter. Alternatively the newsletters are posted onto our web page. If you would like to contribute to future articles feel free to contact us on 66323722.

Bob and Tara and the NLSS team wish you all a Merry Christmas and hope that you have a safe and enjoyable festive season.





TREE PLANTING FOR FISH HABITAT

COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING DAY KYOGLE GOLF CLUB
Sunday 8th December
Meet at the Golf Club
8.30am – 12 noon

Fish Habitat talk by Dr Liz Baker from NSW DPI

FREE BBQ LUNCH

All welcome

Please wear covered shoes, hats, long pants and bring water

For more information or to RSVP Call Northern Landcare Support Services on 66323722



Community Tree Planting Day

Fish need healthy waterways and vegetation along creeks to survive so come along to a creekside community tree planting event in Kyogle on 8th December.

The planting starts at 8.30 till midday, meeting at the Kyogle Golf Course Carpark. There is a free BBQ and a talk by Dr Liz Baker from Fisheries NSW about local native fish and their habitats.

The planting day is part of a project run by a partnership between Kyogle Golf Club, Northern Landcare Support Services, and Kyogle Fish Acclimatisation Society. The project aims to restore 180 metres of Fawcetts Creek to improve fish habitat for bass, herring, mullet, catfish and cod.

The project is supported by a Fish Habitat Action Grant funded by the NSW Department of Primary Industries and the Recreational Fishing Trusts. Bob Jarman from NLSS said “the project will provide an exciting example of a small restoration project that over time will consolidate the creekbank and provide shade and food source to the stream which will hopefully have a direct impact on fish health and numbers.”

Please bring along covered shoes, sun smart clothing, and water. Everyone is welcome.

For more information contact Bob, NLSS on 66323722 or email info@nlss.com.au.

\$11 MILLION INJECTION FOR WAR ON WEEDS

Minister for Primary Industries, Katrina Hodgkinson has today announced the full list of projects for ongoing noxious weed control – worth more than \$11 million – which the NSW Government will fund in the 2013-14 financial year.

“Thirteen Weed Management Authorities will share in \$8.5 million in funding to carry out weed management, while the Department of Primary Industries and other partners will lead a range of State-wide projects totalling more than \$1.5 million.

In the North Coast area Far North Coast Weeds has been allocated \$956 000 for the North Coast Weed Action Program 2010-15

“The Weeds Action Program is just one of the weapons in our arsenal to manage problem weeds in this State, which cost farmers around \$1.2 billion a year in control and lost production.”

Ms Hodgkinson said the Weeds Action Program has also developed and implemented early detection capabilities, inspecting more than 60,000 suspected new weed incursions and identifying more than 6000 high-priority sites for the management of widespread weeds.

UPCOMING GRANTS

Philmac Water Grants

Philmac water projects are small community grant available for watering projects such as installing tanks or irrigation systems at schools, community gardens or sporting fields.

Details online at <http://www.philmac.com.au/philmacproject>

Norman Wettenhall Foundation Small Environmental Grant Scheme

The objectives of the Small Environmental Grants Scheme are to support **Australian biodiversity** projects that are concerned with one or more of the following:

- monitoring and recording data
- community education
- community capacity building (training)
- research and science

Details online <http://nwf.org.au/grants/small-environmental-grants/>



Catchment Management Authority
Northern Rivers

A project of the