

LANDCARERS NOMINATED FOR LOCAL LAND SERVICES BOARD

As you may have heard, the catchment management authority has been replaced with the newly-formed Local Land Services (LLS - look it up online if you would like further detail at <http://northcoast.lls.nsw.gov.au>)

This body will provide support for Landcare and other natural resource management activities across the North Coast region in the years to come.

An election process for the board of directors of LLS is now underway and we encourage everyone who is eligible to vote to get involved. Voting closes 12th March at 5pm.

Why ? - because it will help if we have board members who understand Landcare & who want to support this community-led organisation into the future.

The following candidates have let the North Coast Regional Landcare Network know they are standing and have a solid background of working with or in Landcare and sustainable land management.

Bob Jarman

Bob has 35 years experience as a professional farmer working in dairy, grazing and sharecropping enterprises. He has also worked on a range of projects delivering natural resource management to farmers and land managers in the upper Richmond valley. He is a dedicated Landcarer and vice president of the North Coast Regional Landcare Network

Sue Salvin

Sue runs a small beef enterprise in the Nambucca Valley. She has a strong professional background and interest in the field of natural resource management and sustainable agriculture and has worked with government, non government organisations and community. Sue is vice chair of Nambucca Valley Landcare

Barry Powells

Barry's professional career was firmly based in land management. Recently retiring as Chief Weeds Officer with Coffs Harbour City Council, he managed weed control teams and provided extension and education programs for farmers and landholders. Barry is an executive member of Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare and is a north coast region representative to Landcare NSW. He also runs a cattle breeding enterprise just south of Coffs Harbour.

Consultation: Farm Management Deposits scheme

Treasury has released for public consultation an exposure draft of amendments to be made to the farm management deposits (FMD) scheme. The draft legislation gives effect to the Government's decision announced on 6 November 2013 to:

- increase the off-farm income threshold from \$65,000 to \$100,000, allowing primary producers to earn more income from non-primary production sources in an income year before being prevented from making new FMDs; and
- facilitate the consolidation of FMDs, by eliminating the tax consequences of withdrawing and immediately redepositing FMDs.

These changes would take effect from 1 July 2014. **Closing date: Friday, 28 February 2014** for more information: <http://www.treasury.gov.au/ConsultationsandReviews/Consultations/2014/Amendments-to-the-Farm-Management-Deposits-scheme>

Every Rose has its Thorns : Roseberry Creek restoring Habitat

Roseberry Creek Landholders are set to improve Threatened Species Habitat by targeting some prickly environmental weeds in a new project funded by Local Land Services and delivered by Northern Landcare Support Services.

Removing weeds like lantana and cats claw is a prickly, but necessary business on 12 Roseberry creek properties. Removing these and other weeds along with fencing and tree planting will improve the condition of habitat and enhance the value of corridor connections between World Heritage listed Gondwana Rainforest and the riparian corridor. The Roseberry Creek sub-catchment 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 project will provide habitat by partnering with local schools and the Roseberry Creek Landcare group to plant over 4500 trees.

“This project is a great opportunity to improve habitat for threatened species, address local creek bank erosion, grazing pressures on aquatic ecosystems, and remove some of the myriad of environmental weeds including Weeds of National Significance such as Lantana and Madeira Vine” said Roseberry Creek resident and local Landcare member Ann Hartigan.



Native Seed Propagation Workshop

Saturday 22nd March 2014

10am—2pm



This will be a practical ‘hands on’ day where you can learn how to germinate a variety of native plant seeds for restoration purposes by a local Landcare representative.

At Community Nursery (next to the Tennis/Croquet court)

Morning tea and lunch provided

RSVP to NLSS on 6632 3722 by Thurs 20th March

Please wear sensible shoes and be sun smart — Slip, Slop, Slap & Wrap



UPCOMING GRANTS

Private Land Conservation Grants NSW now OPEN

The Foundation for National Parks and Wildlife is pleased to announce the **opening** of the 2014 round of Private Land Conservation Grants in NSW.

The 'Private Conservation Grants (PLCG) Program' is a partnership initiative of the Foundation for National Parks & Wildlife and the Office of Environment and Heritage Conservation Partners Program, Nature Conservation Trust of New South Wales; Paddy Pallin Foundation; Wildlife Land Trust; Diversicon Environmental Foundation; Community Environment Network; Local Land Services; and **major funder** New South Wales Environmental Trust.

The PLCG Program aims to encourage and support private landholders with **long-term voluntary conservation commitments** to undertake on-ground conservation works on their property. It also recognises that landholders already invest significant personal time and resources in their ongoing management of conservation values on their property. The program can help give a financial boost to support a particular conservation project.

You may have given some thought about what needs to be done to enhance conservation of wildlife and habitats on your property. Maybe some part of your management needs a funding boost in order to address a particular management issue identified through monitoring your conservation area. It could be that with just a little extra support you could make a big difference to the natural heritage values of your property.

2014 Funding Round: Important Dates

Grants Open Friday 7th February 2014
Grants Close Monday 7th April 2014
Grants Announced Friday 13th June 2014
Reports due before Tuesday 30th June 2015
Please read the [2014 Guidelines](#) to determine your eligibility BEFORE you apply.



More information, and a downloadable copy of the Guidelines, is available by visiting our website: <http://fnpw.org.au/foundation-grants/private-land-grants-nsw>



Rural Environmental Leaders Program

Are you passionate about making a change? Do you find yourself often frustrated by shortsighted policies or poor leadership in relation to environmental management? Here is an opportunity to increase your capacity as a change-maker and lead the way in creating a sustainable future.

The Rural Environmental Leaders Program (RELP) provides a unique opportunity for up to 30 committed individuals who are passionate about environmental sustainability to fulfill their potential as leaders.

Funding for this program has been generously supplied by Boeing. We are also grateful for the support our regional promotional partner Southern Cross University.

For more information on program format and eligibility please visit <http://www.csl.org.au/programs/relp>

WEEDS REVIEW

The Natural Resources Commission has released a draft report outlining findings and draft recommendations for its review of weed management in NSW. The draft report has been informed by research, consultation, regional tours and over 200 public submissions from the Issues Paper that was released in October 2013.

The NRC is now accepting submissions on the draft report until **6 April 2014**. The report and information on how to make a submission are at the following link:

<http://engage.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/weed-management-review>

The NRC will continue to consult with stakeholders through March and April with five public meetings scheduled for March. See the website for details.

Prepared by Northern Landcare Support Services for Landcare Groups & landholders in the Richmond & Upper Clarence Catchments. **All contributions to the newsletter are welcome.**

The articles in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of Northern Landcare Support Services or Northern Rivers Local Land Services.

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Catchment Management
Authority
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A project of the