

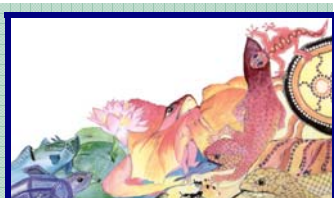


# Network Notes

Fortnightly newsletter for the Natural Resource Management (NRM) network

Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment

10 December 2004



## Special Interest Articles:

- Weed ID for Blockies (Saturday 4 December 2004)

## Individual Highlights:

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This newsletter is prepared fortnightly by the Regional NRM facilitators in the Territory. It is prepared for distribution, in the first instance to the Local Level Facilitator network. The Local Level Facilitators can then forward this newsletter onto any groups, individuals that may benefit from the information contained within this publication. It is also hoped the newsletter will be a medium by which NRM information can be passed onto others in the network. SO if you have any concerns, articles, adverts or news that you wish to share, please send it into the Regional Facilitator who is listed on the newsletter roster.

## New Name for Newsletter Competition

### Newsletter Name Competition



As announced in the last newsletter, the winner of the 'Name for the Newsletter' competition was Samantha Fox (Rivercare AG Facilitator). We decided to get a happy-snap of Sam receiving her prize from Libby Benson, Manager of Community Programs (Sam's the girl on the left). Thank you to those who contributed some very interesting ideas. Enjoy the voucher Sam!

## General News

### Katherine Landcare Group Activities

Seed Propagation Workshop - Greening Australia Nursery, Katherine (Saturday 27 Nov)

Katherine Landcare Group members and guests were invited to Greening Australia's nursery on Second Street to participate in native plant production.

The participants learnt:

- What's in a good soil mix;
- How to treat seeds so that germination is successful; and
- Potting techniques

The activity was designed to get hundreds of seedlings ready for planting in the January and February period of the monsoon. Most native plants can be planted out at the start of the monsoon and require little attention if the rains are consistent for 6-8 weeks.

### Weed ID and reminder for Blockies (Saturday 4 Dec)

20 Landcare Group members and rural block owners turned up to the Hillen's for a pre-wet season Weed ID and control Workshop. Gary and Sharon Hillen informed the group of the main weeds on rural blocks and demonstrated some basic methods of control. Advice was also given about farm forestry as a potential weed barrier for airborne seeds such as *Pennisetum pedicellatum*. Sharon suggested that a few rows of timber trees around the boundary of properties could act as a filter for airborne weed seed, reducing the land owner's effort.



Gary Hillen (DIPE weeds Branch) explaining chemical applications



Sharon Hillen (President of Katherine Landcare Group) introduced the group to the Long John's Creek catchment area

Sharon Hillen said "it was a good cross section of landholders and it was refreshing that so many of the participants were actively controlling their weeds". The group who attended was also interested in the state of the Long John's Creek Catchment, which most blocks in the area drain into. Some landholders are frustrated by the fact that they put resources into their weed management programs annually but their neighbours do nothing. The Katherine Landcare Group suggested an information package could go out to all rural landholders with some helpful information and reminders of landholder responsibilities.

### Draft Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan for the Northern Territory - INRM Plan Update

The Draft Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan for the Northern Territory will now be launched for public exhibition by Minister Burns on **Monday 13 December 2004**.

After the 13<sup>th</sup> December 2004 the Draft INRM Plan can be viewed on the Internet at [www.inrm.nt.gov.au](http://www.inrm.nt.gov.au) and will be available free of charge on CD-ROM (please phone 1800 208 239 to order a copy). Hard copies of the Draft Plan will also be on public display in major regional centres. For further information on forums and meetings please contact your Regional NRM Facilitator.



## Landcare Awards Survey

A working group has been formed to consider the Biannual Northern Territory Landcare Awards.

The working group members are:

- ❖ Fiona Douglas, NT Community Representative to Board of Landcare Australia Limited (LAL)
- ❖ Ian Lancaster, Manager Advisory and Regulatory Services, DIPE
- ❖ Kath Nash, Natural Resource Management (NRM) Facilitator for the Top End
- ❖ Denise Batten, Natural Resource Management Officer
- ❖ Dave Munday, NRM Landcare Facilitator Northern Territory

Due to the amount of work required with the organisation of the awards, and the immense effort put in by community groups and individual group members, the working group is seeking feedback as to how YOU would like to see the awards run, or if indeed you see the awards as useful and valuable.

A survey is being done to find out if the Landcare community values the awards and asks for input as to how they might be run. We value your opinions and will be using the results of this survey to direct the future of the awards.

For our part the working group will take all comments and opinions into consideration when considering the future of the awards. A summary of the survey results will be distributed to all respondents providing return address details.

**Please contact one of the people below to obtain a copy of the survey form.**

### Contact details for further information:

#### Madonna Mackay

Regional NRM Facilitator – Katherine region  
Ph: (08) 8973 8106  
E-mail: madonna.mackay@nt.gov.au

#### Fiona Douglas

NT community representative to board of LAL  
Ph. 8981 6039  
E-mail: fiona.douglas@octa4.net.au

#### Kath Nash

Regional NRM Facilitator – Top End  
Ph: 08 8999 3493  
E-mail: kath.nash@nt.gov.au

#### Dave Munday

NRM Landcare Facilitator Northern Territory  
Ph: 08 8999 4573  
E-mail: dave.munday@nt.gov.au

## Current Projects

**Van Dieman Gulf and Arnhem Coast Voyage to Link Science and Culture** (from MCCN's Wetstuff News 24.11.04, Source: [http://www.oceans.gov.au/oab/OAB\\_191104.pdf](http://www.oceans.gov.au/oab/OAB_191104.pdf))

Marine scientists and remote Indigenous communities will learn from one another in a unique research voyage of the Arnhem Coast and inshore Arafura Sea that began on 19 November 2004.

Mr Greg Hunt MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage said the voyage of the *Hyland C* will be jointly funded by the Australian and Northern Territory Governments and will explore little known marine ecosystems in inshore areas around Arnhem Land and the Arafura Sea.

Mr David Tollner, Federal Member for Solomon said the area to be surveyed had not undergone scientific research for more than 150 years.

The information collected will fill important knowledge gaps that will be used to help marine planning decision-making by both the Australian and Territory Governments," Mr Tollner said...

## Temporary Vacancy

### **Oenpelli - fulfilling the role of a facilitator in the field of Indigenous Land Management**

Vacancy will be open around mid May until mid August 2005

Rate of pay is approximately \$500/week

In the words of Danyel Wolff the current incumbent;

#### Duties will consist of the following:

- Maintaining a presence (and a handle) with regard to vehicle and equipment use.
- Give direction and manage early dry season fuel reduction burning in the west Arnhem region
- Conduct a controlled burn around the Nabarlek mine site - with out burning it out.
- Organise the logistics and assist with skill development for the pet meat harvest of feral horses
- Liaise with training providers from Batchelor and CDU.
- Keep up with the constant rain of phone messages to call back, book keepers requests, and e-mails seeking comment.
- Enjoy your life changing experience here in Gods country of the west Arnhem Land trust

#### It will help for any interested contender to have the following:

- A bottomless well of patience and perseverance
- A little place deep in side where no bastard can grind you down
- A desire to use initiative
- The ability to improvise
- Firm resolve
- A sense of humour
- Broad knowledge in land resource management and issues relevant to the Top End.

For more information please contact Danyel Wolff on 89790604

## Funding

### Regional Competitive Component (RCC) - third round

It is expected that details of the new round will be able to be accessed from Friday 10 December 2004 under the web address: [www.nht.gov.au/rcc/index.html](http://www.nht.gov.au/rcc/index.html). All queries about the third round can be directed to Geoff Rohan: e-mail [geoff.rohan@deh.gov.au](mailto:geoff.rohan@deh.gov.au), phone 02 6274 2344

### National Competitive Component (NCC) - second round

The funding from the second round of the Natural Heritage Trust's \$10 million National Competitive Component was announced on 3 December 2004 by the Australian Government Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Senator Ian Campbell, and the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Warren Truss.

Senator Campbell said the funding will support mainly non-government organisations to undertake multi-year projects that promote a national approach to improving the way Australia's natural resources are managed.

Applications close on 18 February 2005. Information kits and application forms are available by calling James Windle on 02 6274 2750 or by emailing [james.windle@deh.gov.au](mailto:james.windle@deh.gov.au).

Background on the National Competitive Component and the projects which were funded in the first round of funding can be found at: [www.nht.gov.au/nht2/ncc](http://www.nht.gov.au/nht2/ncc)



### Water Wise communities Update Dec 2004

#### Name

The programme will be getting a new name, as 'water wise' is already over-used. The new name is yet to be determined. Until we have a new name it will be known as the Australian Water Fund - communities programme ('community water fund' for short).



#### Demonstration projects

The Minister has asked for some demonstration projects to be up and running in 2004/05. Proposals for demonstration projects will be sought by invitation only from organisations involved in existing initiatives such as the Sustainable Schools Program, and the water campaign for local government run by the International Council of Local Environmental Initiatives.

About 20 demonstration projects will be funded (\$1 million). The projects will be announced on 22 March 2005 (World Water Day), along with a web site and some other information to promote the programme and demonstrate the type of projects the programme will support.

#### Round 1

The Call for Applications for Round 1 will open around May/June 2005. This lead time is necessary to develop an effective communication / education campaign.



**Focus of the programme**

The primary focus of the programme is on engagement of the community through practical on-ground projects that promote wise use of water in community facilities, such as schools, playing fields, public parks and gardens, open space, and recreational facilities (pools, golf courses, bowling greens) etc.

*For information on Eligible Activities, please see Table 1 at the end of this Newsletter.*

**Who can apply?**

Local governments, schools, sporting associations, community groups, NGOs, NRM regional bodies. It is not designed for individual households or farms. There is still some debate over eligibility / cost sharing rules for commercial enterprises.

**Guidelines / Application Form**

Currently being revised.

## Websites

Looking for a grant from the Australian Government? Try grantslink.

[www.grantslink.gov.au/](http://www.grantslink.gov.au/)

Farmers Info Newsletter

<http://www.farmersinfo.com.au/newsletter.htm>

EnviroInfo, *A bi-weekly eNewsletter for professionals in the natural resources and environment management fields*, 25 November 2004

<http://news.envirocentre.com.au/enviroinfo/enviroinfo041125.htm>

Local Level Facilitator and NRM newsletters

<http://www.ipe.nt.gov.au/whatwedo/landcare/newsletters/index.html>

Marine And Coastal Community Network (MCCN), 24 November 2004  
Wetstuff is MCCN's weekly, electronic news service, providing marine and coastal news of international and national interest

<http://www.mccn.org.au/wetstuff.html>

Centralian Land Management Association (CLMA)

<http://www.clma.com.au/>

## Courses/Events

### **Chemcert Courses 2005**

Feb 24,25 / Mar 30,31 / April 28,29 / May 26,27 / June 23,24 / July 28,29 / Aug 25,26 / Sept 29,30 / Oct 27,28 / Nov 24,25

For bookings phone Tanya Paul 8946 6176 or Scott MacDonald 89467254

### **Freshcare Courses 2005**

Darwin CDU - Feb 25, May 13, June 24

Katherine (NT Rural College) - Mar 11, June 10.

For bookings phone 8946 6358 or email [donna.rayner@cdu.edu.au](mailto:donna.rayner@cdu.edu.au)

### **Post Graduate Courses in Rangeland Management - Closing soon**

Semester one 2005 enrolments for Australia's only postgraduate coursework programs in Rangeland Management close 31 January 2005.

Rangelands Australia designed these programs to meet the current and future challenges of rangeland users and managers and they have been developed in partnership with experienced rangeland users, scientists, advisors and other experts from across Australia.

Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma and Masters of Rangeland Management are available, with qualifications issued by The University of Queensland.

For more information, visit [www.rangelands-australia.com.au](http://www.rangelands-australia.com.au) or telephone Rangelands Australia on (07) 5460 1660.

### **National Landcare Facilitator Community Conference - LANDCARE, Linking Science to Paddocks, 2-4th March 2005, Geelong - Victoria**

Conference Aims:

- Assist the Landcare/farming community to use science on the land
- Encourage the integration of science and landholder knowledge for sustainable land management
- Demonstrate how science can be linked to regional NRM plans

Conference Outcomes:

- To enable the Landcare/farming community to adopt the use of science in their regions
- Participants know how to better access science for land management practices
- Scientists and land managers working together towards sustainable land management
- Regional NRM plans are achieved with landholder knowledge and science



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### We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://www.ipe.nt.gov.au/whatwedo/landcare/newsletters/index.html>

## Courses/Events cont.

### ABARE'S Outlook Conference - Pathways to Profit For Future Growth, 1-2 March 2005

Topics and Issues:

- o Economic prospects
- o Trade reform
- o Water resource management
- o Fisheries management
- o Future of farming
- o Climate
- o Forestry

For more information go to [www.abareconomics.com/outlook](http://www.abareconomics.com/outlook)

### Greenhouse 2005 Conference

CSIRO is organising a major international climate change conference, which will be held in Melbourne 13-17 November 2005.

The conference will focus on Awareness, Abatement, Adaptation and Action. For further details contact Paul Holper at CSIRO on ph. 03) 9239 4661

## Network Notes Roster

Newsletter Publication Date	Editor	Submissions to editor by:
24 Dec	NO NEWSLETTER	N/A
7 Jan	NO NEWSLETTER	N/A
21 Jan	NO NEWSLETTER	N/A
28 Jan	Kath Nash	25 Jan
11 Feb	Madonna Mackay	8 Feb
25 Feb	Kath Nash	22 Feb
11 March	Madonna Mackay	8 March
25 March	Kath Nash	22 March
8 April	Madonna Mackay	5 April

\*\* Where it is indicated that there will be no newsletter published, your Regional Facilitator will endeavour to forward relevant information as it comes to hand \*\*.

**Table 1 Eligible Activities (Community Water Fund)**

Investment themes	Eligible activities	Examples
Water saving / efficiency	Activities that improve the water efficiency of community facilities, such as schools, universities, sports facilities and community buildings.	Undertaking and implementing water audits and water efficiency improvement plans.
	Purchase (excluding any existing rebate available) and installation of water efficient or water saving devices in community facilities or public open space areas.	Purchase and installation of water efficient toilets, best practice watering systems and rainwater tanks.
	Improvements to town water supply infrastructure to reduce losses from evaporation and seepage.	
	Capping disused or unnecessary bores that tap into groundwater, unless more appropriately funded through other programs.	
Water reuse / recycle	Using recycled water to maintain community grounds, such as parks, sporting facilities and school ovals.	Greywater or treated effluent.
	Harvesting and using stormwater and rainwater for beneficial use by the community.	
Surface and groundwater health	Activities that improve surface or groundwater health.	Erosion control works, creek and riverbank repair or adopting a local creek or wetland to clean it up.
	Activities to reduce pollution in rivers, groundwater or coastal areas.	Constructing wetlands, buffers or swales.
	Projects that incorporate water sensitive urban design beyond the minimum state/territory requirements.	
	Projects to improve water quality in town or community reservoirs.	
	Monitoring, where it is part of an on-ground project to improve surface or groundwater health.	