



Special Interest Articles

- *Update on NHT2 Project Briefs - Page 1*
- *Parks and Conservation Masterplan - Page 2*



NHT2 updates and tips this fortnight

- All project briefs are now available on the web, but please be sure to **check that you have the most current version** as some have been amended in the last two weeks. The **application form** has also been updated
- MA7-40 Sustainable Enterprises brief - **A plain English version of a section of this brief will be available on the web by COB Tues 18th Oct** This Plain English version will only address the "Potential Information required in the Brief" heading.
- Application form text box size - **information typed into the application form should fit within the text box provided, without the need for scrolling.** Font size can be made smaller to fit more text in as long as it's readable. The proposed timeline has applications arriving on the Thursday 10th November, checked on 11th and copied for assessment panels over w/e of the 12th. This does not allow time to format potentially hundreds of applications so text in boxes is readable. If more room is required to provide further detail, you may attach additional documents to the application. However, don't rely on your supporting documents, the application should stand alone.
- **New online application:** an online version of the application form will be available as of the end of this week via the INRM website www.nreta.nt.gov.au/whatwedo/inrm/index.html. This offers a number of advantages over the existing xls application form:
 - Improved navigation around the form
 - improved ability to add rows to tables
 - easy password protected access to multiple applicants
 - no need to email in application
 - can cut and paste from word doc or xls form if wish

Facilitators will advise when this is up and running and how to access it.

Individual Highlights:

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General News



Invitation to Public Forum

The draft Masterplan provides future directions for the conservation of the Territory's biodiversity (our plants and animals), and for the continued development of our parks and reserves.

After 2 years of comprehensive public consultation, a Draft NT Parks and Conservation Masterplan is out for public comment until 4 November. There will be several evening public meetings this week:

Tennant Creek

Monday 17 October, 6.00- 8:00 pm,
Civic Centre, Peko Road

Alice Springs

Tuesday 18 October, 5:00-7:00 pm

The Palm Room, All Seasons Oasis (10 Gap Rd) for general public, *and targeting conservation interest groups.*

Wednesday 19 October, 7:00-9:00pm

The Palm Room, All Seasons Oasis (10 Gap Rd) for general public *and targeting tourism / recreation interest groups.*

Masterplan packages including summary booklet + CD will be available at the meetings and beforehand through Parks and Wildlife.

Weblink: www.nreta.nt.gov.au/whatwedo/parksmasterplan-draft/



Regional NRM Facilitators out of town

The 3 Regional NRM Facilitators will be attending the National NRM Facilitators Forum in Melbourne from Monday 24th October to Friday 29th October 2005. If you have an urgent matter during this time, you can contact us on 0428 770101 or 0427 000773. Alternatively, please call your local Dept of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts (DNRETA) office for assistance.

Have you seen this bird?

Pastoralists throughout northern and central rangelands can help track one of Australia's most fascinating nomadic birds by taking part in a survey soon to arrive in the mail.

Over the next few months (November-December) a survey will be mailed to pastoralists throughout northern and central Australia, seeking information on if and when Flock Bronzewing Pigeons have been seen on their property.

Peter Dostine from the Australian National University (ANU) and supported by the Australian Research Council and the NT Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts said the aim of the survey was to find out where these birds are still common and why.

"People can make a significant contribution to our understanding of the birds through the survey, by providing information on whether these birds have been seen, or are still seen on their properties", he said.

"The fact that they are nomadic and readily move to new areas makes them very difficult to study", he said.

Peter is also hoping that a group of landholders will continue to help with the project after the survey.

"Landholders who can provide me with regular reports about Flock Pigeons will be an invaluable part of the project, because they can supply information which cannot be easily collected in any other way", he said.

Peter is also hoping to use new technology in his study.

"Some birds will be fitted with satellite transmitters to provide data on large-scale movements and to identify what types of habitat they are using throughout the year," he said.

The information gathered from the survey will be summarised and presented on the Bird Survey page of the Tropical Savannas CRC website. The survey form can also be completed online from this website.

If you would like to help with the survey to ensure that the Flock Bronzewing Pigeon remains an inspiring feature of our landscape please keep an eye out for the survey in your mail box.

To learn more about the project or complete the survey online go to: www.savanna.cdu.edu.au/information/bird_survey.html

Peter can be contacted by telephone on (08) 89 448 475, by email at peter.dostine@nt.gov.au, or by mail at PO Box 496, Palmerston, NT 0831.

Flock Bronzewing Pigeons are often seen drinking at dams, turkey-nests and waterholes in the early morning or late afternoon.

Photo by Graeme Chapman



Funding

The *Defeating the Weed Menace* Program has opened its latest call for applications. Applications close on 4 November. Full details on eligibility and selection criteria are available from www.daff.gov.au/defeatingweeds

Exchange Incentive Fund - Call for proposals

The Exchange Incentive Fund is a small grants fund managed in a partnership between Land & Water Australia's Native Vegetation R&D Program and Greening Australia's Exchange service supported by the Australian Government's Natural Heritage Trust.

The aim of the fund is to help regional practitioners manage their natural resources by:

- Increasing their access to current knowledge and research on native vegetation; and
- Generating new knowledge through links to relevant researchers and organisations.

Funds are available to regional groups and networks, and researchers, for events or activities that will be carried out before 30 June 2006.

It is envisaged that the fund will contribute around \$10,000 to any given project, although applications for more, or less, than this amount will be considered, to a maximum of \$20,000.

Further details including application forms, guidelines and examples of previously funded projects can be downloaded from: www.lwa.gov.au/news.asp?news=99&title=policy

Applications close: Friday 28 October 2005

First round of CERF national funding

Expressions of Interest are sought from existing research institutions for funding for Research Hubs. Research Hubs are large scale, multi disciplinary, multi year research programs organised as partnerships between a range of collaborating research institutions, organisations and research teams, and requiring funding for up to four years.

Applicants whose research concept, as outlined in the Expressions of Interest, is assessed as worthy of further consideration will be requested to submit a Full Application. A request by DEH for the development of a Full Application does not represent any commitment on the part of the Australian Government to fund the proposed research activity.

The closing date for Expressions of Interest is Friday 28 October 2005

All necessary information regarding the research funding grants, including the Priority Research Areas and the proforma for the Expression of Interest, are now available on the new CERF website: www.deh.gov.au/programs/cerf/

Courses and Events

Capacity Building in Indigenous Communities Training Seminar

Nhulunbuy 7 - 8 November 2005

Aboriginal Resource and Development Services Inc. (ARDS)

Capacity Building That Works

Examining a community development model successfully used in Arnhem Land today, this training will cover both the theory and practice of capacity building techniques effectively applied to local governance, law, economics, health and substance abuse issues.

Sharing from the teachings of the Yolngu Aboriginal people of north east Arnhem Land, and his 30 years experience in working with Indigenous communities, Richard offers insights and solutions for addressing the current crises facing many Aboriginal communities across Australia.

Topics covered include:

Reflection on the present situation in Arnhem	Land and Indigenous Communities
Traditional Kinship System	Traditional Political System
Traditional Land Owning system	What is Capacity Building
Capacity Building Blockers	Human Dynamics
Traditional Languages and their use	Communication Across Cultures
Different Communication Morès	Where to start with Education
Learning Approaches	Understanding World View
Dominant & Dominated Cultures	Examples of successful projects
Answering particular questions	

Who should attend?

Those working in any area of Indigenous policy development, program implementation or in direct service delivery with Indigenous people who feel they would benefit from an improved understanding to make their work more effective.

DATE: Monday 7th - Tuesday 8th November 2005

TIME: 8.30am - 4.30pm

COST: \$450 (incl GST) includes morning and afternoon tea, lunch and seminar handouts

VENUE: Nhulunbuy

Registration Deadline: 3rd November 2005

Group discounts apply to groups of 10 or more. For bookings and enquiries, phone Lyndel or Alice on (08) 8987 3910 or go to our website: www.ards.com.au/seminars.htm

Roadmap to a desertSMART Town

Living smart in the desert means being clever with Water, Waste, Energy and Building Design....

...**BUT** are we making progress?

Are we in the fast lane or heading up a dead-end?

Who's got the Roadmap?

The **Centre for Sustainable Arid Towns** and the **Arid Lands Environment Centre** invite YOU to join your neighbours, politicians, and business leaders to create the...

"2005 Roadmap to a desertSMART Town"

Four Roadmap evening sessions:

7.00pm - 8.30pm

Monday Oct 17th WASTE The Tea Shrine (Hartley St)

Tuesday Oct 18th ENERGY The Lane (Todd Mall, upstairs)

Wednesday Oct 19th WATER The Lane

Thursday Oct 20th BUILT ENVIRONMENT The Lane

The Roadmap sessions conclude with a Formation Workshop

Facilitated by **Prof. Stuart White** from the Institute for Sustainable Futures, Sydney

Time: 11am-3.30pm

Date: Sunday 23rd October

Where: Witchetty's, Araluen Centre, Larapinta Drive

Get your ideas on the map...the Roadmap to a desertSMART Town!

For details call 8952 2497, email info@alec.org.au or visit www.alec.org.au

National Water Week

"Protect, Conserve & Get Involved!"

16-22 October 2005

The theme, 'Water for Life', remains the same each year as it is holistic and can encompass water-related programs and activities from a wide range of areas.

Visit www.awa.asn.au/nationalwaterweek for further information.

Online Resources

Australian Soil Resource Information System (ASRIS)

Last week the Minister for Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry launched the Australian Soil Resource Information System. This is an online tool designed to provide access to the best available soil and land resource information in a consistent format across the country. It has been developed through the collaboration of state and Australian government agencies to meet the needs of natural resource managers, educational institutions, planners, researchers and community groups.

ASRIS provides information at a range of scales from general descriptions of soil types, landforms and regoliths to coloured maps, satellite images, tables, photos and graphs. You can access ASRIS at www.asris.csiro.au/index_ie.html (note that it works best with a broadband connection).

The system has been designed to be compatible with Google Earth (see www.earth.google.com/) and NASA World Wind (see www.worldwind.arc.nasa.gov/)

Further advice is available from CSIRO on (02) 6246 5922, or email aclep@csiro.au, or at www.clw.csiro.au/aclep

Grants & Awards

NT Young Achiever Awards for 2006

Only 5 weeks to go!

The search is on for young individuals between the ages of 14 - 26, recognising the achievements of young Territorians in eight categories:

- CharlesDarwinUniversityArts Award
- Woodside Energy Sports Award
- SomervilleCommunity Services Award
- ConocoPhillips Environment Award
- Drake International Career Achievement Award
- Power & Water Science & Engineering Award
- Perkins Shipping Regional & Rural Initiative Award
- Minister for young Territorians Excellence in Youth Leadership Award



The winner of each category will receive a \$1000 TIO Build Up Saver Account and a trophy. The overall "Channel Nine Young Achiever of the Year for the Northern Territory" will receive another \$1000 to add to their TIO account and a magnificent trophy.

[Nominations close on Friday 18th November 2005](#), with the winner being announced at the Gala Presentation Dinner at the Holiday Inn Esplanade on the 1st April 2006. Nominations can be submitted directly online at www.awardsaustralia.com or a nomination form can be sent to you by contacting (08) 8981 0244.

Publications

Native Vegetation: A guide to research and resources

Native vegetation defines the character of the Australian landscape. The management of this vegetation affects sustainable primary production, soils, salinity, water yield and quality, wildlife, and other natural resource management issues. Decisions about the management of native vegetation, including planning, prioritising and allocation of resources often occur at the catchment or regional scale. Management actions occur at the scale of the property. Native vegetation is managed by the paddock, patch, tree belt, remnant and river bank by individuals, small groups or small teams. The type of information required by these managers is different to that required by regional or catchment vegetation managers. Thus, this publication comes in two versions, along with a CD-Rom set which not only incorporates these reports but also contains over 300 research publications.

T. Tyson-Donley, J. Hinchliffe and J. Williams (2005)

Native Vegetation and Property Management: A guide to research and resources.

Greening Australia Ltd. Canberra, ACT

J. Williams (2005)

Native Vegetation and Regional Management: A guide to research and resources.

Greening Australia Ltd., Canberra ACT

To order this publication contact:

Greening Australia Ltd

Attention: Exchange

PO Box 74

Yarralumla ACT 2600

Phone: 02 6281 8585

Fax: 02 6281 8590

Department of
Natural Resources,
Environment and
the Arts

PO Box 30
Palmerston
NT 0831

Phone: (08) 8999 4464

Fax: (08) 8999 4445

E-mail:
kath.nash@nt.gov.au
madonna.mackay@nt.gov.au
michelle.rodrido@nt.gov.au

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[Newsletters](#)

Regional NRM Facilitators

Madonna Mackay

Regional NRM Facilitator - Katherine region

Dept of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts (DNRETA)

PMB 123, Katherine NT 0851

Phone: (08) 8973 8106, Fax: (08) 8973 8122, Mobile: 0428 770 101

E-mail: madonna.mackay@nt.gov.au

Michelle Rodrigo

Regional NRM Facilitator - Alice Springs region (Mon, Wed, Thurs, Frid)

Dept of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts (DNRETA)

PO Box 2130, Alice Springs, NT 0871

Phone: (08) 8951 9255, Fax: (08) 8951 9222

E-mail: michelle.rodrido@nt.gov.au

Kath Nash

Regional NRM Facilitator - Top End region

Dept of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts (DNRETA)

PO Box 30, Palmerston, NT 0831

Phone: (08) 8999 3493, Fax: (08) 8999 4445, Mobile: 0427 000 773

E-mail: kath.nash@nt.gov.au

Newsletter Roster

Newsletter Publication Date	Editor	Submissions to editor by:
28 October	No Network Notes NRM Facilitators in Canberra	NA
4 November	Kath Nash	2 November
18 November	Madonna Mackay	16 November
2 December	Michelle Rodrigo	30 November
16 December	Kath Nash	14 December
30 December	No Network Notes - Christmas fortnight	NA



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.