



Special Interest Articles

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From the Chairman... Landcare Council of the NT

Landcare Awards 2005

Thank you to the 24 nominees in this years Landcare Awards. The Awards night is being held in Katherine and is shaping up to be a great night.

Judging was difficult with a field of high quality nominations from around the Territory including schools and landcare groups. Judges had a tough time picking winners due to the calibre of nominations.

The vision and hard work seen across many groups in the Territory and beyond is inspiring.

NHT/NAP Investment Proposals - Round 1

Don't forget the NHT/NAP Investment Proposals - Round 1 is still open and closes on COB 8 September 2005.

Go to: www.ipe.nt.gov.au/whatwedo/inrm/investmentstrategy/round1/index.html



Community Water & Community Benefit Grants available! See Page 3



2005 NT Landcare Awards

The winners of the NT Landcare Awards will be presented with their award at a special presentation night held in Katherine on Saturday 3rd September 2005.

If you are interested in attending the Living & Learning Activities and or/ The Landcare Awards Presentation Night please RSVP to:

Best Conference & Events Company

GPO Box 2541

DARWIN NT 0801

Phone: 08 8981 1875 - Fax: 08 8941 2815

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Jim Forwood

**NRM Workshops and Events in Katherine
as part of the NT Landcare Awards**

Saturday 3rd September 2005

All daytime workshops and events are at the Katherine Training Centre,
19 Second Street
RSVP to Best Conference & Events Company 8981 1875
for all workshops and events

NRM Workshops and Events in Katherine

8.30am - 12.30pm

SOIL CONSERVATION TECHNIQUES WORKSHOP

An opportunity to get the 'dirt' on soil conservation techniques from Territory experts Bob Keetch, Col Stanton and Daryl Hill.

Presentations and field demonstrations on best practice soil conservation techniques (whoa-boys, reinstating drainage lines etc) relevant to all regions of the NT. The morning includes a trip to Daryl Hill's property to see soil conservation applications on the ground.

12.30pm - 1.30pm

BBQ LUNCH

Fundraiser for the Katherine Rotary Club
Good food for a few bucks.

1.30pm - 2.00pm

LAUNCH OF THE KATHERINE REGIONAL WEEDS STRATEGY

Free CD copies of the Strategy will be available at the launch.

2.00pm - 4.00pm

LANDCARE EXCHANGE

Landcare Groups from around the NT presenting their group's current NRM activities, key issues and challenges. Presenters include the Roper River Landcare Group, Lambells Lagoon Landcare Group, Greening Australia NT, Wagiman Rangers, Katherine Catchment Landcare Group, Barkly Landcare & Conservation Association and others. Facilitated by the Regional NRM Facilitators, presentations will be followed by an opportunity to discuss and learn from success stories and identify common issues and challenges facing the NRM community in the NT.

*6.00pm Landcare Awards Presentation Night
Katherine Club, O'Shea Terrace*

Community Water Grants – Some examples to keep you thinking

By now most of us have heard about the Community Water Grants which provide up to \$50,000 to help local community organisations save, reuse or improve the health of their local water sources provided they can demonstrate a clear community benefit. Below are a few examples of projects that would fit within the scope of Community Water Grants.

Water saving and efficiency works such as:

- Improving water efficiency in buildings by installing water-saving devices.
- Upgrading water supply infrastructure to reduce losses from evaporation or leakage.
- Capping disused or unnecessary public bores.

Water recycling and reuse works such as:

- Using rainwater, greywater, treated effluent, or stormwater to irrigate open space and sporting fields.
- Capturing water through water sensitive urban design in development precincts and buildings.

Water quality improvement works for surface and groundwater such as:

- Erosion and sediment controls, catchment management, and riverbank stabilisation.
- Cleaning up waterways or wetlands.
- Source controls to reduce pollution in rivers, groundwater or coastal waterways.

How can you get more information?

Visit www.communitywatergrants.gov.au to get a copy of the application form and guidelines. Applications close on 4th October 2005 or contact Russell Willing the NT Rivercare Facilitator on 8999 4507 to arrange a meeting.

***Community Benefit Grants Funding Round One 2005/2006***

The first round of the biannual Community Benefit Grant for 2005/ 2006 has opened. The Community Benefit Grants provide grants of up to \$ 5000 to approved non-profit Territory-based organisations to help them in the provisions of services that benefit the community. The Fund receives money from levies imposed on the operation of electronic gaming machines operated by licensed hotels throughout the Northern Territory. Applications close on the 16th of September.

General News

Review of the Facilitator Network

The contract to 'Review the regional, local and indigenous NRM facilitator network and determine and implement an effective structure to maximise regional and remote NRM capacity' was awarded to Sinclair Knight Merz on the 15 August 2005. They will be starting this work very soon. The NHT project team will keep you informed as information comes to hand.

Tennant Creek/ Barkly Regional Prickle-bush Workshop

Nationally acclaimed speakers will be providing information on the three prickly-bushes: Mesquite, Parkinsonia and Prickly Acacia.

Workshop Emphasis

- Prickle-bush identification
- The threats that these weeds pose in terms of environmental and production cost/ losses.
- Latest control methods and best management practices for each of the three prickly-bushes.
- Establishment of Regional Weeds priorities and targets.
- Developing and funding weed control projects

The workshop will be held on the 30th August 2005 at Helen Springs Station with a 9:00 am start. Lunch, BBQ dinner & refreshments are provided - please bring your own swag.

For more information and to confirm attendance please contact Daniel Connor on 89624495 or by email at daniel.connor@nt.gov.au

Katherine Catchment Landcare Group Meeting

Sunday 21st August 10am @ the Katherine Hot Springs

Agenda

- Meeting Schedule for 05/06
- Activity and Event Schedule for 05/06
- Landcare Awards 3rd September - brief on award nominations
- INRMP & RIS Update
- NT Environment Grant Update
- River Recovery Update

For more information contact Madonna on 0439 783 074 or 8973 8106

National Tree Day hits the centre....



This year's National Tree Day, held on Sunday July the 31st, was embraced by the Alice Springs community with numerous plantings occurring throughout the town. The largest planting occurred at Kurrajong Park with over 200 residents turning up to plant 500 local native plant species. The Kurrajong Park planting was organised by Alice Springs Town Council in conjunction with Greening Australia, Kurrajong Area Residence Association and National Tree Day sponsors Planet Ark, AMP and Toyota.

Organiser, Greening Australia's Sunil Dhanji said, "It's great to see so many people turn up to participate in a community driven tree planting, hopefully many of these people will go home with a heightened awareness of the value of their natural environment."

Another National Tree Day planting occurred at Dixon Rd Park with local residents planting over native species supplied by Alice Springs Town Council.

Many Alice Springs schools participated in School Tree Day (as part of National Tree Day) by conducting their own tree plantings. These schools included OLSH Bath St, Araluen Christian School and Ross Park Primary (plants donated by Bloomin' Deserts Nursery).

Gifts that Keep on Giving

Soon to be officially launched this publication is produced by the Trust for Nature and provides a guide for landholders wishing to permanently protect and conserve their land. It outlines potential financial benefits of private land conservation.

Copies of the guide can be downloaded from www.deh.gov.au/biodiversity/publications/gifts-keep-giving/index.html. To request a hard copy e-mail ciu@deh.gov.au or freecall 1800 803 772.

Weeds in the Centre - Weed Managers Nut out Southern NT Priorities

Weeds in the Centre, Priorities and Project Opportunities for the NT Southern Region, held on August the 12th, brought together over 40 delegates from organisations involved in weed management across Southern NT to share their priorities and vision for weed management in Southern NT. Organised by the Alice Springs Regional NRM Facilitator Team, the day aimed to provide an opportunity for people working in the weed management field to get together, hear the weeds management priorities and future direction of organisations working in weeds and jointly nut out ways of meeting these priorities.

The day commenced with a series of insightful overviews on weed management priorities and future directions by key organisations including: Parks, Biodiversity Services, NRETA Weeds Branch, Central Land Council, Centralian Land Management Association, Greening Australia, Uluru Kata-Tjuta National Park and Newmont Mines. These overviews were followed by a collaborative priority mapping session that involved participants adding their suggestions or issues gleaned from the presentations to a board and these suggestions being prioritised by the group. Much of the afternoon was spent taking the theoretical to the practical, with small groups jointly developing projects to address key issues highlighted in the priority mapping session. Organiser Felicity Forth said, "It was fantastic to see people from a wide range of organisations share their issues and vision for the future of weed management in Southern NT."

Participant Jo Rodney, Centralian Land Management Association Acting Coordinator said,

"*Weeds in the Centre* highlighted how different organisations, dealing with weeds on different land tenure do have very different approaches to weed management. For instance weeds some organisations label as "too hard" are the primary focus of other organisation's weed management program. Despite these differences in approach, there was still a feeling of common ground."

"*Weeds in the Centre* was ideally timed to get organisations fired up and thinking collaboratively, in the lead up to the first round of NHT investment proposals," added Ms Rodney.

Thank you to all the organisations that presented and participated in the day. *Weeds in the Centre* was the second seminar organised by the Alice Springs Regional Facilitator Team, as part of the NT Southern Region Healthy Landscapes Seminar Series. Stay tuned for more details on the next seminar in this series.

A CD of the proceedings from the *Weeds in the Centre* held on August the 12th is available by contacting: Michelle Rodrigo or Felicity Forth on 8951 9255 or email felicity.forth@nt.gov.au or michelle.rodrigo@nt.gov.au

Courses/Events

Rangeland Biology and Ecology Seminars, Alice Springs

Aug 22, Monday, 3.30pm, CSIRO Conference Room., Prof Begoña Pego, Autonoma University, Spain, **Effects of livestock removal on grassland dynamics.**

Sept. mid (date TBA) Grant McTainsh, Griffith Uni. **Wind erosion, dust and rainfall in central Australia.**

31 Oct - 4 Nov. **People, Place, Prosperity - Sustainable Development Conference 2005**, Minerals Council of Australia



SPEAKERS and PARTICIPANTS NEEDED:

Volunteer speakers, requests for email notification: contact Bill Low, Coordinator,

PO Box 3130, Alice Springs

Phone/Fax 89 555 222, Fax 89 555 722; Email: LowEcol@LowEcol.com.au

Organisational and distributional assistance from CSIRO, DIPE, DBIRD.

****Please provide me with your email address if you wish to receive individual notices.****

If you wish to have your name removed from the list, let me know: LowEcol@LowEcol.com.au

Seminar notices are available on: www.cse.csiro.au/news/seminars.htm

Cultural Awareness and Engagement Training at Pine Creek hosted by Wagiman Aboriginal Corporation, August 23rd - 25th

Please contact Dave Munday, NRM Landcare Facilitator Northern Territory on 89994573 if you have any queries or wish to attend the training.

Assessing the potential for algal blooms in clear water phase tropical rivers of the NT, George Ganf (University of Adelaide), Environmental Research Institute of the Supervising Scientist, Murrumbidgee, 3.00 pm Friday 26 August 2005

The seminar investigates:

- The presence of algal groups (blue-green, green and brown) in rivers that flow into the Darwin and Bynoe Harbors as well as the Roper, Katherine and Daly Rivers (and their tributaries).
- The response of algal groups to nutrient enrichment in terms of biomass and growth rate.
- The photochemical responses of algal groups to nutrient enrichment.
- The potential for algal blooms in the NT based upon the data gathered in wet and dry seasons.

The project is funded by Land & Water Australia through the Tropical Rivers Program. George Ganf is the author of more than 150 publications that range from fresh to saline waters, phytoplankton to macrophytes, wetlands to reservoirs to rivers to flood plains, physiology to ecology.

For more information contact Renee Bartolo

Phone: 8920 1125

Email: renee.bartolo@deh.gov.au

“Building capacity for sustainable resource management...moving a wheelbarrow full of frogs!, A practical symposium, Toowoomba, 28 – 29 September 2005

For many, working with multiple natural resource management (NRM) stakeholders can be like trying to move a wheelbarrow full of frogs along a bumpy path. Moving forward 'together' is certainly a challenge!

To find out more about the symposium we invite you to go to our website: www.apen.org.au/events/2005symp09/ or contact APEN Secretariat, Rosemary Currie phone 02 6024 5349 or info@apen.org.au

Up and coming State Landcare/NRM Conferences

- **WA State Natural Resource Management Conference, ‘Sustainability Side by Side’, Denmark, WA, 4-6th October**

For more information contact:

Debbie Rice

Phone: 0427 481 812

Email: debbier@denmarkwa.net.au

Monica Durcan

Phone: 0418 934 870

Email: mdurcan@inet.net.au

- **Veg Futures - The conference in the field March, Albury-Wodonga, 19- 23rd of March, 2006**

Veg Futures - the conference in the field is a participatory conference being lead by Greening Australia about the role of vegetation in productive landscapes: from policy to regional planning and practice. Using practical demonstrations, field trips and presentations from leading researchers and landholders, Veg Futures will tackle some of Australia's biggest environmental questions.

Opportunities to participate

For more information, including details on how you can participate, visit our website

www.greeningaustralia.org.au

Or contact Haydn Burgess

Phone: 02 6281 8585

Email: hburgess@greeningaustralia.org.au



Community Support Information

A new Community Support section has been added to the NRM website. The section outlines information about the facilitator Network, the frameworks and guidelines related to capacity building as well as some national projects that will identify community capacity building needs for natural resource management, and develop tools and guides to address them.

See the new information at: <http://www.nrm.gov.au/community/network.html>

Forest profiles - new colour guides give the facts

Australia's major forest types are the subject of a new series of easy-to-read colour profiles produced by the National Forest Inventory - part of the Bureau of Rural Sciences.

Each of the 9 Australian forest profiles includes colour photos and maps illustrating their broad distribution across the country. The series - which covers acacia, callitris, casuarina, eucalypt, melaleuca, mangrove, rainforests, plantation forest types and a national profile - also provide information on their many economic uses, as well as the other values they represent for Australia.

Copies can be downloaded from www.brs.gov.au/forests or ordered by phoning 1800 020 157.

BUSH - adding sustainability to farming

BUSH magazine is published twice a year in the Australian Farm Journal and is also distributed separately. BUSH demonstrates good examples of sustainable land management. It also has information about government funding programs relevant to native vegetation and interesting R&D news.

If you would like to contribute articles to **BUSH** (these need to showcase best-practice native vegetation management) contact Elizabeth with your ideas. It is also available on the web at www.deh.gov.au/land/publications/bush/index.html

If you would like to be added to the mailing list for **BUSH** (it's free), send your mailing address to the editor: elizabeth.dixon@deh.gov.au



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We're on the Web!

See us at:

[Newsletters](#)

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Newsletter Roster

Newsletter Publication Date	Editor	Submissions to editor by:
2 September	Michelle Rodrigo	31 August
16 September	Kath Nash	14 September

Reminders – Information in Previous Newsletters

If you would like to view information from previous newsletters, please visit the site below where you will find recent copies of Network Notes.

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



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.