



Network Notes

Fortnightly newsletter for the Natural Resource Management (NRM) network

Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts

16 September 2005

Special Interest Articles

- *NHT/NAP Investment Proposals Extended - Page 1*
- *Landcare Awards Activities - Page 2*
- *Employment Opportunities - Page 3*



From the Chairman... Landcare Council of the NT



Closing Date for all NHT/NAP Investment Proposals Extended

The Landcare Council of the NT has extended the closing date for all NHT/NAP Investment Proposals to Thursday November the 10th. The closure of investment proposals for first round project briefs has been extended by two months following public comment that the application period was too short. The majority of project briefs will be released progressively between September the 7th and October the 10th. There will be five weeks between the release of the last project brief and the closing date of November the 10th.

Anyone interested in a particular project and looking to lodge a grant application can contact the Regional facilitators in Darwin (8999 3493), Katherine: (8973 8106) and Alice Springs (8951 9255).

Project briefs will be posted on the website as they become available at www.ipe.nt.gov.au/whatwedo/inrm/investmentstrategy/round1/index.htm.

Applicants will be notified of the result of their proposal(s) by December 16 2005.

Jim Forwood

Individual Highlights:

LCNT Chairman Update	1
Landcare Awards Activities	2
Employment Opportunities	3
General News	4-5
Courses & Events	6
Grants & Awards	7-10
NRM Facilitators	11



The Biennial NT Landcare Awards have come and gone.....a great sigh of relief for those involved with the organisation of the event – Well done to all involved with the organisation of which there were many!.

On the Friday before the big day, 14 of the Local Level Facilitators in the Northern Territory participated in a Project Management Course...this was delivered by Stephen Kelly from Victoria. I am hoping this course provided people with a little bit of insight into preparations for development of new projects under the current NHT 2 regime.

Landcare Awards Activities...

The Saturday commenced with a Soil Conservation workshop presented by several of the Territory's Soil Conservation Gurus – Bob Keetch, Col Stanton, Col Creeser and Daryl Hill. I'm sure all those who participated in the workshop will agree it was an entertaining and informative session. The day commenced with presentations by Bob Keetch and Col Stanton. Bob explained a few practical applications, during his presentation one of which we saw applied in the latter part of the morning under Daryl Hill's direction. It was good to get first hand experience on the intricacies of contour banks.....*and folks they are not bloody speed humps - they are contour banks.*

Col Stanton's presentation on Buffel Grass in the Centre – was certainly entertaining. I had heard rumours about the introduction of Buffel in the Centre, one such rumour included afghan cameleers and the other dust suppression around the airport. Now I know the dust suppression story in detail!

Thanks fellas for putting on a great Soil Conservation Workshop! For those of us that attended we experienced a marked time in history...the last time Bob, Col, Col and Daryl will work together. After 39 years of playing in the dirt, Bob Keetch has retired – Here's Wishing you all the Best for your New Adventures Bob!

Later in the afternoon we had a "Landcare Exchange" session this was also a very productive session providing the opportunity to share stories and exchange ideas.

We heard numerous stories including one ladies passionate desire to control gamba grass. Again well done to all involved it seems despite frustrations many successes have been achieved.

The day ended with beers and smiles at the NT Landcare Awards presentation night. There where many worthy winners and merit certificate recipients. Here's hoping the NT winners will go on and achieve even greater heights at the National Awards.

Kath Nash, Regional NRM Facilitator - Darwin



Left: Soil Conservation Techniques Workshop - Katherine 3/9/05



Right: Landcare Exchange - Katherine 3/9/05



Bottom: Jim Forwood with Westpac Sponsors at the 2005 Landcare Awards - Katherine 3/9/05



Employment Opportunities

Darwin Nursery Manager

Greening Australia NT is a community based, not-for-profit organisation which works to conserve and manage native vegetation. We are seeking an enthusiastic and motivated person to manage our native plant nursery in Darwin. This position provides an exciting opportunity for someone who has an infectious passion for native plants.

The position will be responsible for coordinating all aspects of nursery production, including: supervise the production of locally provenanced seedlings, further develop commercial sales of plant stock, produce seedling production schedules, marketing and general maintenance.

This position is part time for 3 days a week with the opportunity to become full time. The successful applicant will have relevant horticultural qualifications or relevant, quantifiable experience. Salary is negotiable based on qualifications and experience.

For duty statement and selection criteria, call Karine Bertrand on (08) 8981 1344 or email info@nt.greeningaustralia.org.au or go to www.greeningaustralia.org.au/GA/NT/News (see below)

Darwin Bushcare Facilitator

Salary package - negotiable to \$57,000

Greening Australia NT has an exciting opportunity for a highly motivated person to tackle the problem of invasive grassy weeds in the greater Darwin region. The Darwin Bushcare Facilitator will support community groups focusing on weed and native vegetation management; provide technical advice, project management and training; raise awareness about natural resource management; and assist the implementation of the NT Regional Investment Strategy.

The successful applicant will: be committed to the goals and philosophy of Greening Australia; have a relevant tertiary qualification and/or relevant experience; have the ability to facilitate and co-ordinate community involvement in weed and native vegetation management; demonstrated ability in native revegetation/regeneration techniques; computer literacy; and be self confident and motivated.

This is a full time position for one year, funded through the Natural Heritage Trust. Please note salary package includes home garaging of vehicle, superannuation, workers compensation and leave loading. Conditions include 5 weeks annual leave.

Duty statement and further information is available by contacting Karine Bertrand on (08) 8981 1344 or email info@nt.greeningaustralia.org.au or by viewing our website at www.greeningaustralia.org.au/GA/NT/News (see below)

Please send an application addressing the selection criteria with your CV and a list of 3 referees to:

The Chief Executive Officer
Greening Australia NT
GPO Box 1604
Darwin NT 0801
Fax: (08) 8981 1182
Email: info@nt.greeningaustralia.org.au

Applications close:
COB Friday 23 September 2005

General News



The Northern Territory Parks and Conservation Masterplan is being developed by the Northern Territory Government, through the Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Art, in association with the Australian Government Department of the Environment and Heritage (Parks Australia North), and the Northern Territory Aboriginal Land Councils.

The draft Masterplan provides future directions for the conservation of the Northern Territory's biodiversity (our plants and animals), and for the continued development of our parks and reserves over the next 15 years.

Click here to go to the [Masterplan](#) website.

For more information please phone freecall 1800 813 337 or email parksmasterplan@nt.gov.au.

General News

CRC on Savanna Biodiversity

Gay Crowley, of the Tropical Savannas CRC, is inviting input into a study that will determine what information products will be provided by the CRC on savanna biodiversity. This work is part of a larger project aiming to improve biodiversity management across the savannas

(www.savanna.cdu.edu.au/research/projects/savanna_biodiversity.html)

Gay has been consulting a range of savanna stakeholders, including Indigenous groups, pastoralists, conservation agencies, conservation NGOs and regional NRM bodies, to determine the information they require and the forms this should take. She is also interested in information-related issues that might prevent effective application of biodiversity information to land management.

The issues Gay is interested in include:

- What information people feel is needed to ensure good biodiversity management.
- Is the information already available (as formal research findings, local/traditional knowledge)?
- Are appropriate information products available?
- What are the appropriate formats for information transfer (eg paper product, web, video/DVD, media released, school/training-based material, ground-based visits/workshops)?
- At what scale is information transfer appropriate (local, regional, state/territory, cross-savannas)?
- What information-transfer projects are already being undertaken, and by whom?
- What impediments prevent effective access, interpretation and application of biodiversity information?
- How can the TS-CRC Savanna Biodiversity project assist in filling the gaps by providing new information products or facilitating others in their information delivery?



If you wish to contribute to this assessment
Please contact:

Gay Crowley
gabriel.crowley@cdu.edu.au

Courses/Events

*Gamba Grass Information Day
Saturday October 15 2005
Bachelor General Store
Batchelor*

Courses/Events

GRANT WRITING WORKSHOPS

Presented by Katherine Regional Arts, these workshops over three weeks have been developed to be hands on and practical and to assist any individual, group or organisation to work through the complete process of preparing an application for funding.

The workshops will be most relevant to activities that are in the areas of the arts, culture or community development. The workshops are timed to coincide with the Arts Grants round due 15th October but can also be used to develop grants for other funding organisations.

Week 1: Introduction - Tuesday 27th September – 5.00 to 6.30 pm

Week 2: Drafting – Tuesday 4th October – 5.00 to 6.30 pm
Individual sessions with Juanita Gay, Arts NT – 6.00 to 8.00 pm

Week 3: Budgets & finalisation – Tuesday 11th October – 5.00 to 6.30 pm
Individual sessions for application review – 6.00 to 8.00 pm

All sessions are \$5.00 each to cover materials, photocopying and tea/coffee.

To get the full course outline please call Katherine Regional Arts Inc. on 8971 0928

All sessions held at Katherine Regional Arts office – Upstairs
Katherine Training Centre, Second Street

Registrations to be made on the attached form and forwarded to:

Katherine Regional Arts Inc.
Fax: (08) 8971 3300 Phone: (08) 8971 0928
Email: coordinator@artskatherine.org.au
Room J19, Upstairs, Katherine Training Centre, 19 Second Street



GRANT WRITING WORKSHOPS: REGISTRATION FORM

Name:

Group/Organisation:

Address:

.....

Contact phone no/s:

Email address:

Area of interest:

Minister's Award for Coastal Custodians

The Minister for the Environment and Heritage Senator Ian Campbell invites nominations from organisations or individuals for the \$5000 Minister's Award for Coastal Custodians. Entries open today and close on Friday, 11 November 2005. The national winner will be announced during Coastcare Week in early December 2005. This is the fourth year that the award has been presented. Last year's award was presented to a group of volunteers from Victoria's Gippsland coast, who identified and then eradicated an infestation of introduced marine pest, the northern pacific seastar, from the waters around the town of Inverloch.

The objectives of the award are to encourage a culture of custodianship among Australians for their coastal and marine environments and to foster partnerships and cooperation to this end between individuals, organisations, schools, business and industry. In this way, Australians can work together to preserve the health, integrity and diversity of their coasts and oceans.

Eligibility Criteria

The award is open to Australian individuals and organisations who work to improve the coastal and/or marine environment. Nominations will be judged in consideration of the following criteria:

- the development of a practical solution to an identified marine or coastal environmental problem
- an example of innovation in marine or coastal environmental remediation
- an example of community or school-based awareness-raising about a marine or coastal environmental issue
- a pro-active approach to cultural or behavioural change relating to the improvement of the marine or coastal environment
- an example of marine or coastal environment monitoring leading to remediation action
- an example of cooperation between individuals, organisations, institutions, industries or businesses to improve the marine or coastal environment

To nominate for the Minister's Award for Coastal Custodians, apply in writing with a one-page summary profile (supporting materials may be included) by Friday 11 November 2005 to:

Minister's Award for Coastal Custodians 2005
 c/- Marine Division Public Affairs
 National Oceans Office Branch
 Department of the Environment and Heritage
 GPO Box 2139
 Hobart Tas 7001

Defeating the Weed Menace Programme

The Australian Government has committed \$40 million over 4 years, from 2004-05 to 2007-08, for national action on Australia's most threatening weeds through the Defeating the Weed Menace Programme.

Weed control is estimated to cost Australian farmers around \$1.5 billion annually, with lost agricultural production costing in excess of \$2 billion. Weeds are also one of the greatest threats to biodiversity in Australia. Early detection and prevention of the spread of weeds is the most cost effective strategy for weed control. New weeds are discovered each year in Australia, mainly due to escapes from domestic gardens and the disposal of garden waste. Others are already well established, so a strategic national approach to weed management and control is essential.

The Defeating the Weeds Menace Programme will identify Australia's most threatening weeds and implement measures for their management. This will include strategic on-ground control and eradication at a regional level, research into cost effective management techniques and bio-controls for key target weeds, and awareness raising campaigns.

A call for strategic national projects has been made. Projects will also be considered for other serious weed problems such as those spanning several regions or States/Territories where these are identified as priorities in regional natural resource management plans.

The Defeating the Weeds Menace Programme is jointly managed by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) and the Department of the Environment and Heritage (DEH).

Guidelines and applications for the 2005-06 Defeating the Weed Menace Programme Grants are now available.

www.daff.gov.au/defeatingweeds

The closing date for applications for the 2005-06 grants is Friday
4 November 2005.

National Landcare Program Innovation Grants

The 2005-06 Round of Natural Resource Innovation Grants from the National Landcare Program opened on August the 24th. The Natural Resource Innovation Grants are one-off grants to encourage people engaged in farming, food, aquaculture and forest industries to contribute to sustainable production by developing and/or adopting and promoting innovative practices, production techniques, technologies and products. New and innovative water-related activities are also encouraged.

Some examples of issues for which innovative land management practices could be implemented include:

- Restoration of productive capacity (e.g. identification of cost-effective and practical methods of enhancing soil function to improve productivity);
- Cultivation practices (e.g. demonstration of advantages of precision agriculture technologies in lower rainfall farming systems);
- Water quality (e.g. use of artificial wetlands to act as sediment and nutrient traps for water emissions from production nurseries or water-intensive industries);
- Management of organic waste (e.g. demonstration of a sustainable organic management system in horticulture);
- Salinity (e.g. cultivation of marketable seaweed in saline water evaporation basins).

The closing date for applications is the 7th of October. Further information including guidelines and application forms can be accessed at www.landcare.gov.au/nlpinnovations or call 1800 657 220.

A complete list of the projects approved in 2003-04 and 2004-05 may be found at www.landcare.gov.au/nlpinnovations

Recreational Fishing Community Grants Program - Round 1

The Australian Governments Recreational Fishing and Community Grants Program aims to maintain and enhance fish habitat through the encouragement of sustainable resource use and fishing practices by recreational anglers. Applications for Round 1 close on the 14th October 2005. Information including guidelines and application forms can be accessed at www.daff.gov.au/recfishinggrants



CERF information seminar

The Commonwealth Environment Research Facilities (CERF) is a \$100 million grant initiative for research that addresses the environmental challenges facing Australia.

The Australian Government Department of the Environment and Heritage will be presenting information seminars on CERF in all capital cities for potential research funding applicants, universities, industry and interested members of the community. Detailed information on the programme will be provided and there will be adequate time for questions and discussion.

An information seminar will be held on Thursday 22 September 9.30-12.00 at Parks Australia North, Henry Wrigley Drive & Pederson Road, Darwin Airport.

To assist with determining supporting arrangements for the seminars, we would appreciate it if interested parties could indicate likely attendance by email to jenna.leonard@deh.gov.au

Please share this seminar notice with others who might be interested in the CERF initiative.

Further information on the CERF programme is available on the CERF web site: <http://www.deh.gov.au/cerf/>

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

felicity.forth@nt.gov.au

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[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.

[Previous Newsletters](#)

Regional NRM Facilitators

Madonna Mackay

Regional Natural Resource Management (NRM) Facilitator

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

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 and Felicity Forth

Alice Springs Regional NRM Facilitator Team

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

NRM Group

PO Box 2130, Alice Springs, NT 0871

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

Michelle Rodrigo: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

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

Felicity Forth: Thursday and Friday

E-mail: felicity.forth@nt.gov.au

Kath Nash

Natural Resource Management (NRM) Facilitator - Top End

NRM Division

Conservation & Natural Resource Group

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

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:
30 September	Madonna Mackay	28 September
14 October	Michelle Rodrigo	12 October
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.