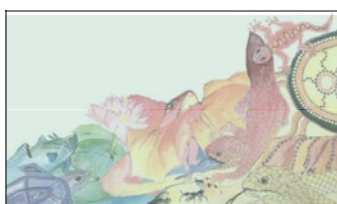




## Special Interest Articles

- *Weeds in the Centre - Page 2*
- *NT Landcare Awards - Closing date extended to 5<sup>th</sup> August 2005 - Page 3*
- *Central Australia Water Information Day - Page 4*



### From the Chairman... Landcare Council of the NT

#### ***Regional Investment Strategy (RIS) Update***

The first round of packages for the investment proposals of the NRM Regional Investment Strategy are about to be released.

It is expected that they will be advertised in the Saturday NT News in the coming weeks and will also be available on our website [www.ipe.nt.gov.au/](http://www.ipe.nt.gov.au/)

Local Facilitators will be notifying everyone when this occurs.

Jim Forwood



Jim Forwood has been formally reappointed as the Northern Territory Community representative to the Australian Landcare Council until June 2008.

The Australian Landcare Council is the Australian Government's peak advisory body on landcare and matters concerning natural resource management. It has a major role in advising the Government on priorities and strategies for natural resource management to achieve efficient, sustainable and equitable management of natural resources in Australia that are consistent with the principles of ecologically sustainable development.

*Please visit the following website for further information on the Australian Landcare Council [www.auslandcarecouncil.org/](http://www.auslandcarecouncil.org/)*

#### *Individual Highlights:*

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## General News

### *Weeds in the Centre, NT Southern Region Healthy Landscapes Seminar Series*

Do you want to be more aware about what's happening in the field of weed management across the NT southern region?

Do you have views about regional priorities for weed management in the NT Southern Region?  
Do you want to develop working partnerships and collaborative projects to achieve strategic weed management outcomes?

*If so, we'd like to invite you to attend*

***Weeds in the Centre, Priorities and Project Opportunities for the NT Southern Region,  
Friday 12<sup>th</sup> August, 8:30 - 4:00 pm, CSIRO Conference Room, Alice Springs***

The aims of the day are:

- to increase stakeholder awareness of weed management projects and programs currently being undertaken in the NT Southern Region;
- to clearly document priorities for weed management in this region to inform the draft Regional Weeds Strategy and provide a foundation for current and future project proposals
- to collaboratively develop and refine project proposals, strategically aligned with regional priorities and the INRM Plan, for submission to relevant funding programs.

The program for the day will commence with a series of brief talks from key stakeholders to set the scene for ensuing workshop sessions on defining regional priorities and developing project proposals. If you would like to attend please RSVP for catering purposes by Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> of August on 8951 9255.

This event has been organised by the Alice Springs NRM Regional Facilitator Team and is the second in the NT Southern Region Healthy Landscapes Seminar Series. For more information contact:

#### **The Alice Springs Regional NRM Facilitator Team**

Dept of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts,  
Natural Resource Management  
PO Box 2130

Alice Springs NT 0871

**Phone:** 08 8951 9255

**Fax:** 08 8951 9222

Michelle Rodrigo: Monday - Wednesday

**Email:** [michelle.rodrido@nt.gov.au](mailto:michelle.rodrido@nt.gov.au)

Felicity Forth: Thursday - Friday

**Email:** [felicity.forth@nt.gov.au](mailto:felicity.forth@nt.gov.au)



## 2005 NT Landcare Awards closing date extended to **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> of August!**

Exciting news for everyone that thinks they may have missed out in entering the NT Landcare Awards. The closing date for the Landcare Awards has been extended to **Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> of August** so there is still time to enter yourself or nominate someone who has displayed excellence in caring for our land.

The Northern Territory Landcare Awards recognise and reward the efforts of individuals, community groups, indigenous communities and organisations for efforts in sustainable natural resource management and in caring for country. Entry forms and further information are available by telephoning **8973 8106** or by visiting [www.ipe.nt.gov.au/whatwedo/landcare/awards/index.html](http://www.ipe.nt.gov.au/whatwedo/landcare/awards/index.html)

## Second Round of Drought Envirofund Announced



The Envirofund second round of Drought Envirofund has opened for Community groups and individuals in Exceptional Circumstances-declared areas. As no areas in the Northern Territory are Exceptional Circumstances-declared areas, so Territorians will have to wait for the next non- Drought Envirofund round to be announced. The second Drought Recovery Round of the Envirofund Applications close on Friday 26 August 2005. For more information visit [www.nht.gov.au/envirofund](http://www.nht.gov.au/envirofund) or [www.deh.gov.au/minister/env/2005/mr15jul05.html](http://www.deh.gov.au/minister/env/2005/mr15jul05.html)

## Get set for National Tree Day



July is the month for a tree spree. The 10th annual National Tree Day is on Sunday July 31st and Schools Tree Day is on Friday July 29th. Organised by Planet Ark, last year's Tree Day saw 250 000 volunteers plant over a million wildlife-friendly native trees. Call the Planet Ark Tree Day Hotline on 1300 88 5000 to get involved or visit [www.planetark.com/treeday](http://www.planetark.com/treeday)

## Central Australia Water Information Day- a great day for sharing



The Central Australia Water Information Day held on July the 12<sup>th</sup> was a great success, bringing together delegates from organisations and agencies involved in water management across Central Australia to share their experiences and expertise.

Organised by the Alice Springs Regional Facilitator Team - Michelle Rodrigo and Felicity Forth, the day aimed to provide an opportunity for people working in the water field to increase their awareness of water projects and programs currently being undertaken in Central Australia and facilitate greater collaboration the water field. Organiser Felicity Forth said "We know there are lots of people working locally on water projects across a variety of organisations. By holding a water information day we were hoping to aid information flow between the different organisations to ultimately enhance collaboration between these groups".

Fifteen speakers from nine organisations gave presentations on their water projects and programs under three key themes - sustainable management of wetlands and waterways, sustainable management of water supply and waste water and developing good governance of water resources, to an audience of over 40 people. Each of the themes was followed by a facilitated forum with participants highlighting key learnings, opportunities and challenges illustrated by the presentations.

Presentation topics varied greatly both within theme areas as well as between theme areas, from on ground projects such as indigenous water monitoring and riparian weed control programs to more broad scale topics such as water conservation initiatives and the NT water planning and allocation process. With funding insecurity featuring as a key issue for many water projects, the day ended on a high note with Jim Derrick from DEH outlining the Australian Government's new Community Water Grant Program.



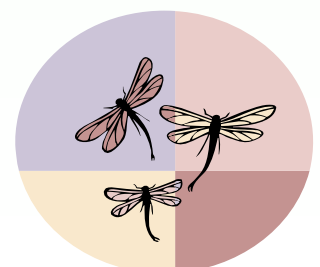
Lucas Jordan and Tony Scrutton presenting at the Central Australian Water Day

Thankyou to all the organisations who presented on the day including:

Greening Australia NT, Central Land Council, Muru warinyi Ankkul (Tennant Creek) Rangers, Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts, Centre for Sustainable Arid Towns, Centre for Appropriate Technology, Power and Water, Charles Darwin University (Desert Knowledge CRC), Anmatjere Council, Ti Tree Water Advisory Committee and the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Heritage.

The day was such a success that it has prompted the Alice Springs Regional Facilitator Team to develop a series of similar NT Southern Region Healthy Landscapes Seminar Series. The next seminar in the series will be Weeds in the Centre Featured on Page 2 of this Newsletter.

**A CD of the proceedings from the Central Australia Water Information Day held on July the 12th is available by contacting: Michelle Rodrigo or Felicity Forth on 8951 9255 or email [felicity.forth@nt.gov.au](mailto:felicity.forth@nt.gov.au) or [michelle.rodrigo@nt.gov.au](mailto:michelle.rodrigo@nt.gov.au)**



## *Marine Research and the Northern Territory Parks and Conservation Masterplan*

The lack of detailed knowledge of Territory marine environments is one aspect to be addressed in the NT Parks and Conservation Masterplan. The purpose of the project is to provide a blueprint for the conservation of the Northern Territory's biodiversity over the next 15 years.

Knowledge of ecological processes and patterns of biodiversity within the Northern Territory marine environment is poor compared with the terrestrial environment. While much has been done to monitor fish stocks and to collect specimens for museums, very few surveys have attempted to document the range of habitats or species level information in Territory seas. Existing databases on marine fish, corals, crabs and shellfish are too scant to allow for analysis of the comprehensiveness, adequacy and representativeness of the marine component of the Territory park system.

There is a body of knowledge about some groups, such as seabirds and marine turtles, so we know where important breeding, nesting and feeding grounds are situated. However, much more work is required to provide sufficient information for decision-making. There is a need to develop a series of basic marine habitat maps out to three nautical miles, similar to vegetation mapping on land as well as basic information about habitat, species composition, and habitat use by different marine species is required.

*Further information: The Draft Northern Territory Parks and Conservation Masterplan is expected to be released for comment by early July 2005, for a 10-12 week period. The draft will be available for comment on the Masterplan website ([www.parksmasterplan.nt.gov.au](http://www.parksmasterplan.nt.gov.au)) or you can register your interest in receiving a free CD of the draft Masterplan by contacting the Masterplan Project Officer on 1800 813 337, or emailing [parksmasterplan@nt.gov.au](mailto:parksmasterplan@nt.gov.au)*

## **New Ministers**

### **Northern Territory Government - New Ministry**

The Chief Minister has announced the expansion of the Ministry to nine. Ms Marion Scrymgour is now the Minister for Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts and Parks and Wildlife. Mr Chris Burns is Minister for Lands and Planning and Mr Kon Vatskalis Minister for Primary Industry and Fisheries.

The new arrangements provide a greater focus on economic and regional development, consolidate the delivery of infrastructure into one portfolio area, strengthen the government's commitment to the environment and conservation and deliver better outcomes for Indigenous Territorians.

This website contains detailed information on the changes [www.nt.gov.au/dcm/ntps/index.shtml](http://www.nt.gov.au/dcm/ntps/index.shtml)

### **The Federal Government has a new Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry**

National Party MP, Peter McGauran, formerly Minister for Science in the Coalition's last term of government, has been appointed to take over the portfolio from Warren Truss, who has been transferred to the Transport and Regional Services portfolio.

Mr Truss said that amongst the key achievements of the six years in which he held the portfolio was the development of regional catchment management organisations and regional plans which would deliver the environmental programs like the Natural Heritage Trust, National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality and Landcare programs, and the \$500 million Living Murray initiative.

## Courses/Events

### Katherine Happenings....

Friday 5.00pm 22nd July- Launch of the River Recovery Project, Nitmiluk National Park Information Centre on the Balcony.

Saturday 9.30am 23rd July - River Recovery River Tour, Meet at Greening Australia on Second Street. A River Tour with the Greening Australia Board and Katherine Catchment Landcare Group members to focus on the potential projects for the River Recovery Project and other issues within the catchment. This tour is kindly supported by St Joseph's Primary School in the provision of their school bus.

Please RSVP to Madonna on 0439 783074 or Sharon on 0401 110350.

### Upcoming Rangeland Biology and Ecology Seminars, Alice Springs

#### July 26, Tuesday, DIPE Conference Room, Alice Plaza

2.30pm, Julia Fonseca, Pima County Regional Flood Control District, A Local Government's Response to the Water Supply/Environmental Dilemma in Pima County, Arizona.

3.30 pm, Michael Manga, Dept Earth and Planetary Science, University of California, Berkeley, Hydrogeology, heat flow and degassing in the Oregon Cascades

#### July 27, Wednesday, CSIRO Conference Room, Heath Road

2.30pm, Jon Clark, Cooperative Research Centre for Landscape Environments & Mineral Exploration (CRC LEME), Visions in the desert: the Australian outback as a testing ground for future Mars missions

3.30 pm, Mary Bourke, Planetary Science Institute, JetPropulsionLab/NASA, The case for frozen sand dunes on Mars.

#### July 29, Friday, 3.30pm. CAT Display Room

Noah Pleshet, DKCRC, CAT, Alice Springs. A Viability Analysis for Desert Settlement Economies: The transport and mobility interface.

#### Aug 17<sup>th</sup> Wed., CSIRO Conference Room

Prof Eudald Carbonell and Prof Carlos Diez. Atapuerca: 1 million years of human technology. (Any archaeologists in Alice Springs interested in meeting these people contact Jocelyn Davies, CSIRO)

#### Aug 19<sup>th</sup>. Friday, CSIRO Conference Room

Prof Bego Pego, Effects of livestock removal on grassland dynamics.



#### **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](mailto: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](mailto:LowEcol@LowEcol.com.au)

Seminar notices are available on: [www.cse.csiro.au/news/seminars.htm](http://www.cse.csiro.au/news/seminars.htm)

**Intensive Negotiation Skills - 15 August 2005****8.30am – 4.45pm, Darwin. Venue to be confirmed**

This full-day workshop involves the core theory and practice of negotiation and will provide you with a long term touchstone for all your future negotiations. The training program has been specifically designed for those in business and Government who wish to reduce transaction costs of resolving conflict, and those who need to build productive and enduring relationships.

The presenter is Michael Klug, a senior dispute resolution specialist and one of Australia's pioneering lawyers in the field of alternative dispute resolution. If you have any queries, please call us on 1800 882 110 or access our website [www.claytonutz.com](http://www.claytonutz.com) for online registration.

**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 8999 4573 if you have any queries or wish to attend the training.

***“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/](http://www.apen.org.au/events/2005symp09/) or contact APEN Secretariat, Rosemary Currie: Phone 02 6024 5349 or [info@apen.org.au](mailto:info@apen.org.au)

**Up and coming State Landcare/NRM Conferences*****Queensland Landcare Conference ‘The Outback Speaks’, Barcaldine, Qld, 4-7th August***

For more information contact the Desert Uplands Organising Committee Ph: 07 4651 2160 or email [kerriwoodcock@desertuplands.org.au](mailto:kerriwoodcock@desertuplands.org.au)

Further details can be accessed at: [www.desertuplands.org.au](http://www.desertuplands.org.au)

***NSW Landcare Catchment Management Forum ‘Leaving Smaller Footprints’, Wagga Wagga, NSW, 18-20th August***

For more information contact the Smaller Footprints Organising Committee 02 6923 0570 or email [smaller.footprints@cma.nsw.gov.au](mailto:smaller.footprints@cma.nsw.gov.au)

Further details can be accessed at: [www.murrumbidgee.cma.nsw.gov.au/footprint.html](http://www.murrumbidgee.cma.nsw.gov.au/footprint.html)

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

For more information contact Debbie Rice on 0427 481 812 or [debbier@denmarkwa.net.au](mailto:debbier@denmarkwa.net.au) OR Monica Durcan on 0418 934 870 or [mdurcan@inet.net.au](mailto:mdurcan@inet.net.au)

***Book Launch 'A Guide to Threatened, Near Threatened and Data Deficient Plants in the Litchfield Shire of the Northern Territory'***

*12- 12.30 pm Saturday - 6<sup>th</sup> August, The 'Demonstration Marquee' during the Tropical Garden Spectacular at the George Brown Botanic Gardens, Darwin*

**Note:** There is a cost of \$6 to enter the Tropical Garden Spectacular

Written by Jarrad Holmes, Deborah Bisa, Audrey Hill and Beth Crase, the book is a result of a collaborate effort predominately between TSN, the Top End Native Plant Society and local community members with technical support from the NT Herbarium (DIPE).

The book is 93 pages, in full colour, with over 120 photos and diagrams. It includes the descriptions of 55 plant species of conservation concern that are found within the Shire. The purpose of the guide is to assist the local community to identify plants of conservation concern in the bush, and for records to be documented in a manner suitable for placing on the NT scientific database. The book is for sale at a cost of \$12.

Further Information: Jarrad Holmes, 08 8941 7554, or [savannas@wwf.org.au](mailto:savannas@wwf.org.au)

***Environmental Publications Website***

A variety of publications, fact sheets and more on a vast range of environment and heritage topics can be accessed at the Department of the Environment and Heritage publications website: [www.deh.gov.au/about/publications/list.html](http://www.deh.gov.au/about/publications/list.html)

Some publications recently posted on the website include:

- ESD design guide for Australian Government buildings;
- Grants for Australia's environment and heritage - a guide;
- Socio-economic impacts of marine protected areas in Australia.

**Community Water Grants**

Grants of up to \$50 000 will be provided to community organisations for community oriented, on ground works projects that have clear public benefits and:

- Increase water saving and efficiency
- Recycle and reuse water
- Improve surface and groundwater health

***How can I apply for a grant?***

Visit [www.communitywatergrants.gov.au](http://www.communitywatergrants.gov.au) to get a copy of the application form and guidelines. Applications close on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2005 or contact Russel Willing the NT Rivercare Facilitator on 8999 4507 to arrange a meeting.

**NT Threatened Species Art & Photography Competition - 2005**

**ENTRIES:** Close 26th August 2005. Anyone regardless of age, gender, religion, state/territory of residence, nationality, professional or amateur status can enter. School and community groups encouraged.

**DATE & VENUE:** Entries will be on display at the Darwin Entertainment Centre Gallery from 7 - 10<sup>th</sup> Sept 2005 (12 - 5pm). Official opening (by NT Minister) and winners announced at 6.30pm, 7th Sept 2005. All welcome to attend.

For further information on the threatened animal and plant species in the NT, conditions of entry or to make an expression of interest contact: Threatened Species Network in Darwin on (08) 89417554, [savannas@wwf.org.au](mailto:savannas@wwf.org.au) or in Alice Springs on (08) 89521541, [rangelands@wwf.org.au](mailto:rangelands@wwf.org.au)

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**We're on the Web!**

*See us at:*

[Newsletters](#)

## Regional NRM Facilitators

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## Newsletter Roster

Newsletter Publication Date	Editor	Submissions to editor by:
5 Aug	Kath Nash	3 Aug
19 Aug	Michelle Rodrigo	17 Aug
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.