

# News of our world

Date: July 2010

**NRM news, events, funding and training opportunities, forums and conferences of interest to people living in the ACT and nearby regions, prepared by the ACT Natural Resources Management Facilitator.**

**ACT NRM Council**

**This newsletter will also appear on [www.actlandcare.org.au](http://www.actlandcare.org.au)**

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## **EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR THE ACT NRM COUNCIL**

### **EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST – TWO NEW MEMBERS SOUGHT FOR COUNCIL**

The ACT NRM Council is a non-statutory skills-based body of six members appointed by the ACT Government to make recommendations and manage strategic investments that maintain, protect and enhance natural resources in the ACT. The Council also provides leadership and guidance in integrated natural resource management in the ACT.

Expressions of interest are sought to fill two vacancies on the Council for an Aboriginal member and a member with expertise in primary production.

#### Aboriginal council member

Applicants applying for this position should possess:

- a demonstrated knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' and societies and cultures and an understanding of the issues affecting these people in contemporary Australian society; and
- experience of or an understanding of ways that Aboriginal people can be engaged in natural resource management.

#### Primary production council member

Applicants applying for this position should possess:

- a demonstrated knowledge and understanding ACT region primary production; and
- experience or an understanding of ways in which the ACT primary producer community can be engaged in natural resource management.

Applicants for both positions should have an experience of or an understanding of natural resource management practices and their application in Australian land management.

Council members are appointed by the Minister for the Environment, Climate Change and Water for a three year term. Members receive a per diem sitting fee. The Council meets every two months and additional meetings are held as required.

Written Expressions of Interest no longer than two pages, should be submitted to: Mr John Feint, Executive Officer, ACT NRM Council, GPO Box 158, Canberra, ACT or to [john.feint@act.gov.au](mailto:john.feint@act.gov.au)

For further information please contact John Feint, 6207 5584 or 0417 286 943.

Expressions of interest close on **Friday 9 July 2010**.

## NEWS

### WINNERS ANNOUNCED FOR 2010 NATIONAL LANDCARE AWARDS

The National Landcare Awards were held in Canberra on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

Congratulations to each of the winners:

*Aust. Govt Coastcare Award:* Warrnambool Coastcare Landcare Group & Point Danger Committee of Management (VIC)

*Aust Govt Individual Landcarer Award:* Kate McLaren (NSW)

*Aust Govt Landcare NRM Region Award:* Desert Channels Queensland (QLD)

*Leighton Holdings Indigenous Award:* South Coast NRM Restoring Connections (WA)

*Local Govt Landcare Partnership Award:* Huon Valley Council (Tas)

*Aust Govt Local Landcare Facilitator:* John David Nicholas (QLD)

*Aust. Govt Sustainable Farm Practices:* Cowell's BST Oyster Supplies (SA)

*Toshiba Community Group Award:* Little Swanport Catchment Plan Implementation Committee (Tas)

*Urban Landcare Award:* Friends of Westgate Park (Vic)

*Westpac Education Award:* Baldivis Primary School (WA)

*Woolworths Primary Producer Award:* Clover Hill Dairies (NSW)

*Young Landcare Leader Award:* Erin Rowe (NSW)

For more information about each winner, visit the [National Landcare Awards website](#).

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### COMMUNITY ACTION GRANTS

The Australian Government has announced up to \$8 million in additional funds are available through its 2010-11 Caring for our Country Community Action Grants program. The applicant guidelines and application form will be available from **Tuesday 6 July 2010** at <http://www.nrm.gov.au/cag/index.html#guide> or by calling 1800 552 008.

Applications will close 31 August 2010.

If you would like assistance in developing an application for a Community Action Grant, please contact:

Esther Duffy  
02 6205 2913  
[esther.duffy@act.gov.au](mailto:esther.duffy@act.gov.au) or

Anna van Dugteren  
02 6205 2914  
[anna.vandugteren@act.gov.au](mailto:anna.vandugteren@act.gov.au)

## **2010-2011 DISABILITY ACT GRANTS NOW OPEN**

Applications for non-recurrent grants are now open for residents of the ACT under the following Disability ACT programs:

- Quality of Life - \$5,000
- Young People in Residential Aged Care - \$5,000
- Innovation - \$50,000
- International Day of People with a Disability (I-Day) - \$5,000

Applications and information can be obtained from the ACT Government Grants website [www.grants.act.gov.au](http://www.grants.act.gov.au) or the Disability ACT Information Service on 6207 1086 or website [www.dhcs.act.gov.au/disability\\_act](http://www.dhcs.act.gov.au/disability_act)

## **JUNIOR LANDCARE GRANTS**

Through the Junior Landcare Grants Program, any school or organisation that would like to involve their students in landcare projects, in conjunction with local landcare groups, can apply for grants to assist them with the cost of their projects.

Round 3 closing date is 5pm **Friday 6th August** (Yates and Coles). For information and to download applications forms, visit the [Junior Landcare website](#).

## **FARMREADY GRANTS**

The Australian Government has allocated \$26.5 million over four years to boost training opportunities for primary producers, and to enable industry, farming groups and natural resource management groups develop strategies to adapt and respond to the impacts of climate change.

Managed by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, further information, application and claim forms can be accessed at [www.farmready.gov.au](http://www.farmready.gov.au)

## **EVENTS AND COURSES**

### **CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT COURSES CIT**

Certificates 2 and 3 in Conservation And Land Management are being run at Bruce campus of CIT. This is a practical course with lots of scope for outdoor work in the newly built Horticulture facility at Bruce.

Classes commence on Friday the 23rd of July. Enrolments will be taken during the week of the 12th to the 16th of July. For more information contact Jane Cottee 62078744 or the Student Services Hub on 6207 3188 or visit the following websites:

[CIT Conservation and Land Management – Certificate II](#)

[CIT Conservation and Land Management – Certificate III](#)

### **WOMEN OF FLOWERS: BOTANICAL ART IN AUSTRALIA – 11 JULY 2010**

Leonie Norton will give a talk about her book *Women of Flowers: Botanical Art in Australia from the 1830s to the 1960s* at the Tuggeranong Homestead. Leonie is one of Australia's leading botanical artists and an international botanical art tutor. The book pays tribute to 11 colonial women botanical artists and features many beautiful works that were sourced primarily from the National Library of Australia's Pictures Collections. Leonie's book is a social history of the women that celebrates their achievements and their contribution to botanical art. The book will be available at the talk and the National Library's book shop.

When: 2 pm Sunday 11 July 2010

Where: Tuggeranong Homestead, Johnson Drive, Richardson

Cost: \$10 includes Devonshire tea

Bookings please to: Jenny Horsfield 6231 4535

### **IS THAT A CACKLE, A CROAK, OR A RIBBIT?**

ACT and Region Frogwatch would like to invite you to a free Frog Call Identification Evening:

- Learn about our local frog species
- Learn how to identify different frogs by their calls
- Practice identifying frogs from a chorus - what species and how many are there.

These evenings are ideal for anyone interested in frogs including those who have previously participated in Frogwatch and want some further practice with identifying the different species.

#### *Frog Call Evening 1*

Date: Thursday 22nd July

Time: 6pm

Venue: Queanbeyan TAFE - Corner Buttle and Macquoid Streets

RSVP: By 15 July - Molonglo Catchment Group [-coordinator@molonglocatchment.com.au](mailto:coordinator@molonglocatchment.com.au) or 6299 2119

#### *Frog Call Evening 2*

Date: Tuesday 27th July 6pm

Time: 6pm

Venue: Belconnen Library - 12 Chandler St Belconnen

RSVP: By 20 July - Ginninderra Catchment Group - [frogwatch@ginninderralandcare.org.au](mailto:frogwatch@ginninderralandcare.org.au) or 6278 3309

#### *Frog Call Evening 3*

Date: Wednesday 28th July

Time: 6pm

Venue: Lyons Youth Haven Functions Room - Kambah Pool Road

RSVP: By 21 July - Southern ACT Catchment Group - [waterwatch@sactcg.org.au](mailto:waterwatch@sactcg.org.au) or 6296 6400

Estimated length: 1.5 hours. Tea and coffee will be available.

ACT and Region Frogwatch runs an annual Frogwatch Census each October. The program aims to involve large numbers of volunteers to undertake frog monitoring and protect frog habitat in the ACT and region. In spring the program will run introductory training sessions for *new* Frogwatchers to learn about frogs and their calls as well as the monitoring process. Field trips for more experienced Frogwatchers will also be offered.

### **GREENING AUSTRALIA - NATIONAL TREE DAY PLANTING AND REGULAR VOLUNTEERING**

Greening Australia's next planting day will be on the National Tree Day Sunday 1 August.

Greening Australia also has regular volunteering opportunities:

- Wednesday volunteers – Volunteers meet at the GA nursery in Aranda every Wednesday morning during school term from 9:00am to 12:00 noon to assist with plant propagation and maintenance. A delicious morning tea is provided.
- Green Team – Volunteers meet on Thursdays to head out in minibus to various sites in the ACT and surrounding area to assist with plantings, plant maintenance, hand seeding and site preparation.
- Adopt-A-Patch – This is a program where small teams of volunteers enhance and maintain sites by planting tubestock, seeding and weeding.

If you would like to be involved with any of these volunteer opportunities, please email [admin@act.greeningaustralia.org.au](mailto:admin@act.greeningaustralia.org.au) or phone 6253 3035

### **CANBERRA SUSTAINABLE CAREERS EXPO: STALLHOLDERS AND VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Where: Sports Hall, Australian National University

When: 12-4pm, Wednesday 18 August 2010

Last year this event took place at Francis Xavier College and was attended by college, high school and university students and the general public.

ACT otherWISE intends to make it even bigger and better this year and see the Sustainable Careers Expo as an event that will grow to be huge, as careers in areas that help create an environmentally sustainable world will become more and more popular and necessary.

The expo will bring together tertiary course providers, business, government departments, and advocacy and volunteer organisations. There will also be talks, activities including a green fashion parade and the event will be opened by a prominent Canberran.

Organisations wanting to have a stall included in the Expo should contact Heidi Gill on 0401 295 970 or [otherwise@consact.org.au](mailto:otherwise@consact.org.au). If any young people would like to join the steering committee or if anyone at all would like to help out on the day contact Heidi also.

### **3RD INTERNATIONAL URBAN DESIGN CONFERENCE – DESIGNS ON OUR FUTURE**

30th August to 1st September 2010 - National Convention Centre, Canberra.

Australia's population is projected to increase by 60 per cent in the next 40 years, what impact will this have on our existing cities?

The conference will examine how our new cities are conceived and our existing ones are adapted, re-designed and managed.

Information, including a program, is available at <http://www.urbandesignaustralia.com.au/>.

#### **BIODIVERSITY AND WORLD FOOD SECURITY: NOURISHING THE PLANET AND ITS PEOPLE**

The 2010 Crawford Fund Annual Parliamentary Conference will be, "*Biodiversity and World Food Security: Nourishing the Planet and its People*". The conference will be held in Parliament House, Canberra over the period 30 August to 1 September.

This will be the key event in the Australasian region and one of very few international events focusing on food security imperatives in relation to biodiversity conservation.

The conference will highlight the value and vulnerability of biodiversity in agriculture, food security and rural livelihoods, especially for developing nations and Australia; address the additional pressures that climate change impacts will bring to bear on both the conservation and use of biodiversity, and offer some policy directions for Australia and the developing world.

Information is available at <http://www.crawfordfund.org/conference/2010.html>.

#### **AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATORS NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

26-30 Sept 2010

ANU, Canberra

The AAEE National Conference, *Leading Change – Living For One Planet*, offers participants from government and non-government organisations a robust and dynamic forum where they can exchange ideas, experiences and research to build the capacity of people to innovate and implement solutions that achieve positive environmental change. Confirmed speakers include Carmen Lawrence, Tim Flannery, Clive Hamilton, Greg Bourne (CEO WWF). Further information about the conference can be found at <https://www.conferenceco.com.au/aaee>

#### **THE FUTURE - K2C LANDHOLDERS – LINKS - LANDSCAPES EXPO**

*Sunday, 10th Oct 2010 at Bredbo Village*

Over 25 stalls to field your questions and offer options for you on your land.

Calling on all landholders in a 100km radius to head to Bredbo Village for this exciting event. The day will include:

- Key Presenter, Sam Archer - Cattle and Crop Farmer, MLA Nuffield Scholar.
- Ten K2C Partners + many more industry and community groups will be there to discuss all types of land matters with you.

- A range of sustainable land uses that can yield profits while enriching landscape health.
- A visit to the Bush Heritage "Scottsdale" Property, listen and talk to presenters on land use, birds, reptiles, weeds, wattles and much more.
- Celebrations for 2010 — Year of Biodiversity.

Contact Lauren Van Dyke—K2C Project Facilitator [facilitator@k2c.org.au](mailto:facilitator@k2c.org.au)

[www.k2c.org.au](http://www.k2c.org.au)

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

### **DRAFT LANDCARE FRAMEWORK**

The submission period to comment on the draft Australian Framework for Landcare is currently open and will close on 30 July 2010.

To comment on the Framework visit [http://www.daff.gov.au/natural-resources/landcare/the\\_australian\\_landcare\\_framework](http://www.daff.gov.au/natural-resources/landcare/the_australian_landcare_framework)

The community development of an Australian Framework for Landcare was initiated at a workshop held in Melbourne on 30 April 2009, with a small cross section of community Landcarers.

The Framework has been drafted by the Australian Framework for Landcare Reference Group which is made up of Landcare community members. The reference group has been working to ensure that views expressed by the Landcare community during the extensive community consultation period are accurately reflected in the Framework document. The consultation period commenced in April 2009 and concluded with discussions at the recent National Landcare Forum.

### **TIDBINBILLA DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Tidbinbilla Draft Plan of Management May 2010 is now available for public comment until Monday 26 July 2010. The purpose of the draft plan is to seek community views on the values of Tidbinbilla, the issues and options associated with their conservation and use, and the current and future management policies for the Tidbinbilla precinct.

The draft plan can be viewed at the [Tidbinbilla Draft Plan](#) page at the Territory and Municipal Services [website](#).

### **MURRAY DARLING BASIN PLAN SOON TO BE RELEASED**

The draft Murray Darling Basin Plan is due to be released in the first week of August according to the Murray Darling Basin Authority (MBDA).

The MBDA has identified two key stages of stakeholder engagement in developing the Basin Plan:

- the period up to the release of the proposed Basin Plan (scheduled for mid-2010)

- the formal 16-week public consultation period for receiving public submissions (scheduled to commence with the release of the proposed Basin Plan, in mid-2010).

Information about the Basin Plan can be found at [http://www.mdba.gov.au/basin\\_plan](http://www.mdba.gov.au/basin_plan).

## **COMPETITIONS/AWARDS**

### **ACT SUSTAINABLE CITIES AWARDS**

Submissions for the ACT Sustainable Cities Awards are now being accepted and are due by July 15. The awards are open to all ACT residents, community groups, schools, businesses and all levels of government. For more details go to <http://www.kab.org.au/sustainable-cities/what-we-do/act/> or go directly to the [advertisement for ACT Sustainable Cities](#).

### **BANKSIA AWARDS – 2 AUGUST**

The 2010 Banksia Awards are open for nomination. The Awards are designed to recognise and reward environmental excellence and the contribution to a sustainable Australia.

There are 10 award categories:

- Education Award
- Water Award
- Land and Biodiversity Award
- Indigenous Award – Caring for Country
- Leading in Sustainability (large organisations)
- Leading in Sustainability (small to medium business)
- Built Environment Award
- Clean Technology
- Agriculture and Food
- Transportation, Warehousing and Logistics

For more information, visit the [Banksia Foundation website](#).

## **RESOURCES**

### **GRASSLANDS FORUM REPORT**

On the 20 May 2010, The Friends of Grasslands, the ACT Natural Resource Management Council, the Department of Territory and Municipal Services and the Office of the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment co-hosted the Grasslands Forum.

A report of this forum is available from the Office of the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment's website under the [special reports and investigations](#) section.

## **WENTWORTH GROUP REPORT ON THE MURRAY-DARLING BASIN**

The Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists have released a report "*Sustainable Diversions in the Murray-Darling Basin An analysis of the options for achieving a sustainable diversion limit in the Murray-Darling Basin*".

This report seeks to identify the scale of reductions in diversions required within each of the 18 catchments of the Basin. It also seeks to determine the most cost-effective way to obtain the necessary water while also assisting the businesses and communities in the Basin capitalise on opportunities and adapt to a future with less water.

The report can be found at <http://www.wentworthgroup.org/blueprints/sustainable-diversions-in-the-murray-darling-basin>.

## **EVERGRAZE**

EverGraze is a Future Farm Industries CRC, Meat & Livestock Australia and Australian Wool Innovation research and delivery partnership.

EverGraze is developing and testing new farming systems in different environments across the high rainfall zone of southern Australia. The target is to increase profits of sheep and cattle enterprises by up to 50% and at the same time improve water management, use of perennials, biodiversity and soil health.

Newsletters, fact sheets and research and development are available at: <http://www.evergraze.com.au/>.

## **A JOURNEY THROUGH CLIMATE HISTORY**

The Climate Timeline, which can be found at the [ABC "A Journey Through Climate History" site](#), has been developed to show key events in the climatic history of the planet, alongside events in human history.

The timeline is an interactive timeline which spans from the beginning of the Earth to present day. The timeline also offers possible future outcomes, based on reports prepared by the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

## **THE SERRATED TUSSOCK WORKING PARTY FOR NSW AND ACT**

The Serrated Tussock Working Party for NSW and ACT, in partnership with Mid-Western Regional Council, has been successful in securing funding under the Noxious Weeds Grants to employ a project officer to lead a coordinated effort against this highly invasive weed.

The project is the first stage in a 5 year plan to coordinate better district and regional programs so that control efforts increase in their effectiveness and there is a decrease in the impact of serrated tussock.

Clare Hamilton has been appointed to the position of Project Coordinator and is based in Rylstone on the NSW Central Tablelands.

Tussock Talk is the newsletter of the Serrated Tussock Working Party for NSW and ACT. The June edition includes:

- Serrated Tussock Working Party for NSW and ACT
- The most expensive form of control is no control
- Winter Control Guide
- Flupropanate resistance in serrated tussock
- Key identifying features of serrated tussock

Tussock Talk can be downloaded from the [ACT Landcare website](#).

If you would like to be added to the distribution list for Tussock Talk, please email Clare Hamilton [Clare.Hamilton@midwestern.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Clare.Hamilton@midwestern.nsw.gov.au).

### **NATIONAL WASTE REPORT AND FACT SHEETS**

The National Waste Report 2010 presents key information on waste management and resource recovery. It draws on a range of published sources, commissioned research and information from states and territories. It is the first step towards establishing baseline data and developing a comprehensive account of waste issues which can be used by industry, government and the community to make informed and timely decisions.

As well as presenting national, state and territory waste data, the report discusses the impacts of landfill, recycling, hazardous waste, organic waste and litter, and describes how we managed waste in the past, our current arrangements and emerging issues and trends. The report also examines the quality of our data on waste and recycling.

The National Waste Report and associated fact sheets can be found at <http://www.environment.gov.au/settlements/waste/index.html>.