# Tweed Landcare News



## August 2016

#### Tweed Landcare Inc.

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For Aboriginal cultural heritage information contact

Tweed Byron Local

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All contributions to the newsletter are welcome.

## **August**

**Thursday 25** Sustainable grazing field day, Chillingham Weeds and Waves, Brunswick Heads

## September

Saturday 3 Home Expo, Tweed Heads West
Wednesday 21 Tweed Landcare meeting, Murwillumbah
Wednesday 21 National Landcare Conference, Melbourne
Environmental Trust grants applications close
Friday 30 Fish Habitat Action Grants applications close

Long-leaved tuckeroo (Cupaniopsis newmanii) is flowering now but it's the spectacular new growth that makes it stand out in the forest. This rare species of small tree/shrub is limited to the area around the Tweed caldera.



## **Tweed Landcare meeting**

The next Tweed Landcare meeting is Wednesday 21 September, 6.00 pm at the Murwillumbah Services Club meeting room.

We will now have a session at the start of each meeting for members to raise issues or projects. Please email to Secretary <a href="mailto:franchara590@gmail.com">franchara590@gmail.com</a> with agenda items. Everyone welcome.

## Sustainable grazing field day

When: Thursday 25 August, 10am – 2pm

Where: Chillingham Hall

Come and hear from the experts and learn about the outcomes of an 18-month sustainable grazing project funded by the NSW Environmental Trust.

#### Speakers include:

- Dave Forrest, Biological farming educator and consultant, advice on Supporting managed grazing with soil mineral and biological inputs.
- Nathan Jennings, Senior Livestock
   Officer, North Coast Local Land Services, talking on Pasture, genetics, weaning and reproduction aspects from the Grazing BMP Animal Production Module.
- Dr Judi Earl, AIMS Consultancy and Holistic ManagementTM educator, will speak about Principles of good pasture management and experiences putting change into practice
- Eli Szandala, Program Leader Sustainable Agriculture, Tweed Shire Council, talking about Council's support programs and opportunities

Sustainable grazing program participants will share their experiences in the program and what they have learnt. Lunch and refreshments provided.

Please RSVP to Tweed Shire Council by COB Tuesday 23 August 2016 on (02) 6670 2599 or <a href="mailto:eszandala@tweed.nsw.gov.au">eszandala@tweed.nsw.gov.au</a>

#### Weeds and Waves

When: Saturday 27 August, 10am - 4.30pm

Where: Brunswick Heads beachside

Free event for 18-30yo's

■ Get into nature ■ Meet awesome people

■ Grab a feed ■ Plant trees ■ Pull weeds

■ Cruise the river ■ Learn about the dunes

■ Be the change

Find out about Intrepid Landcare: the new national network for young Australians.

RSVP essential.

alison.ratcliffe@byron.nsw.gov.au





## Home Expo 2016

When: Saturday 3 September, 9am - 2pm

Where: Seagulls Club, Gollan Drive, Tweed Heads West

Bees, batteries & beach breaks – smart living event, This year's annual 'Living for the Future' Home Expo will be a-buzz with all you need to know to make smart living choices in the Tweed.

Amongst the range of local business and community group trade stalls and workshops, find out how to give native and European bees (and your garden) a helping hand. Get all the answers to your questions about solar and batteries, and find out what to do when generous solar power feedin tariffs finish this year.

Join in the community tree planting at 10.30 on a site next to the Terranora Broadwater. Holes will be dug and plants provided by Tweed Shire Council.

Join the prize draw for fantastic prizes on offer including a weekend getaway package for a family of 5 to stay at the Sea Breeze Villa, Kingscliff North Holiday Park valued at \$566 For more information, check out <a href="https://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/HomeExpo">www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/HomeExpo</a>

## Tree planting grants

The next round of our tree planting grants is open. Tweed Landcare secured a funding agreement with local building company Stroud Homes Northern Rivers where they will donate \$200 for every home built to go to planting projects in the Tweed.

We will be offering two \$600 grants to cover plants, fertiliser, mulch, guards etc for your planting project. Applications close 30 September.

For more info or to apply contact Jude Mason 02 6670 2199 or landcareofficer@tweed.nsw.gov.au

In May this year Bilambil Landcare was one of two groups to receive a \$600 grant provided by Stroud Homes. This most welcome grant money enabled us to purchase 92 trees, a mix of 50 different species of rainforest trees, some good diversity. In the months since then we have slowly put these trees into the ground. I say slowly because we were planting a steep slope. The trees are being used to increase the number of tree species in patch of excellent 80 year old regrowth rainforest. We thank Stroud Homes for their enlightened decision to support Landcare in the mission of landscape restoration in the spectacular Tweed Valley.



Gary Austin, Bilambil Landcare

Caldera Art has a new website to showcase the work of Caldera Artists and encourage people to visit the magnificent places that inspire these artists.

calderawildscapes.org



## **Tweed Landcare membership reminder** (if you haven't already)

Hi there dear Landcare members, for all those wishing to renew their membership a gentle reminder that membership is due by the end of June each year. The yearly fee is \$10 per person.. Please support TLI to carry on our vital role and contribute to the wider Landcare movement by renewing your membership.

If you currently receive a printed copy by post please consider changing to email to save on postage costs. Email your details to <a href="mailto:landcareofficer@tweed.nsw.gov.au">landcareofficer@tweed.nsw.gov.au</a>

Renewals (\$10) can be sent to **Tweed Landcare Membership**, **PO Box 42**, **Murwillumbah 2484** or by Electronic Funds Transfer to –

Westpac Bank BSB: 032584 Account No: 127182 Account Name: Tweed Landcare Inc. (put your name and 'membership' as the reference)

## National Tree Day success!

Sunday 31 July was National Tree Day – Australia's largest nature care event. This year, two planting sites were running simultaneously which saw over 1,500 trees planted by around 140 volunteers at Uki and Tumbulgum.

In Uki, over 100 people turned up and dug in to help plant the banks of the Tweed River, on Cudgenbil Hole. This site has been transformed over the past 12 months by Ian Walker, working under Tweed Landcare with funding provided by Tweed Shire Council. The site was overgrown with a variety of weeds including madeira vine, balloon vine, cats claw creeper and lantana.



Many hours have been spent cutting back the vines, freeing up the natives on the river bank

and hand weeding and spot spraying the weed re-growth. In addition, several large camphor laurel trees have been felled and chipped which provided valuable mulch to nurture the seedlings planted.

Previous tree day plantings from Byangum to Uki are rapidly transforming the view along Kyogle Rd. Tree growth at all sites has been rapid, and the reduction in the 'weed scape' is clear to any one driving along Kyogle Rd. Restoring these public sites is part of a larger program of riparian and bushland restoration work underway in the Tweed through partnerships with landowners, Landcare and Council.

Tumbulgum Community Association contacted Council to assist with a National Tree Day planting at Blueys Hill Park to mark the 150 years since the first European settlement on the 'Tweed Junction' where the Rous and Tweed Rivers meet. About 30 adults and children helped on the day, enjoying both planting and mulching the plants. The morning was capped off with a great informal gathering over damper and tea. Other events are planned in Tumbulgum to mark the 150 year celebration including the Tweed River Festival in November.



## Community input to North Coast Local Land Services

North Coast Local Land Services currently has three community advisory groups

- Community Advisory Group
- North Coast Regional Weed Committee, and the newly formed
- Aboriginal Community Advisory Group.

North Coast Landcare is represented on the Community Advisory Group by Bob Jarman (North Coast Regional Landcare/Border Ranges-Richmond Valley Landcare), Sue Salvin (North Coast Regional Landcare/Nambucca Valley Landcare) and Bonnie Walker (Richmond Landcare Inc). Barry Powells (North Coast Regional Landcare/Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare) represents Landcare on the North Coast Regional Weed Committee.

Meeting summaries from these Groups and Committee can be accessed on the North Coast Local Land Services website

- Community Advisory Group <a href="http://northcoast.lls.nsw.gov.au/our-region/local-advisory-groups">http://northcoast.lls.nsw.gov.au/our-region/local-advisory-groups</a>
- North Coast Regional Weed Committee <a href="http://northcoast.lls.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/weed-control/north-coast-regional-weed-committee">http://northcoast.lls.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/weed-control/north-coast-regional-weed-committee</a>

## Have your say about significant weeds on the North Coast

The North Coast Regional Weed Committee (NCRWC) has been established as part of a new approach to weed management on the North Coast. NCRWC are currently seeking feedback from the community with regard to any significant weeds.

The *Biosecurity Act 2015 Supplementary Information Paper: Weeds* should be referenced (<a href="http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/">http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/</a> data/assets/pdf file/0011/664337/citrus-red-mite-supplementary-information-paper.pdf</a>), particularly Appendix 4 where there is a long list of weeds to be considered for regional regulation.

If there are weeds that you considered to be of regional importance that are not in this list then please advise Tweed Landcare (<a href="mailto:info@tweedlandcare.org.au">info@tweedlandcare.org.au</a>) so they can be bought up for consideration at the next North Coast Regional Weed Committee meeting on 7 September 2016. These weeds will then be considered for inclusion in the regional plan.

## Big Data in Agriculture - what is it?

What is the potential and what are the pitfalls? Your chance to have your say.

Gina Wood, a PhD researcher at the School of Law in the University of New England, is running a survey "Big Data in Primary Production - What Do Farmers Know and Not Know, Do and Not Do, Concerning Farm Data in Australia?" to find out what farmers think about Big Data and related technologies - is it a powerful tool to help farmers or more empty promises and hyped-up words? A means to improve productivity or a step towards dependency on suppliers? A way to make better decisions on farm or a loss of control?

Make sure you participate in this <u>anonymous online 15-minute questionnaire</u> whether you are familiar with "Big Data" or know nothing about it. Your answers are vital in helping to determine how Big Data and its associated technologies can be best put to use for the benefit of primary producers in Australia.

Ssurvey answers will be used to quantify the level of understanding and use of Big Data in primary production amongst farmers. Participants must be over 18 years old and the owner or farm manager of an operation with at least 50% of revenues from primary production in any primary production sector (e.g. not B&B or farm-stay). No understanding of Big Data is necessary to complete the survey. (UNE Ethics Committee Approval #HE16-125, valid to 06/06/2017).

#### Fish Habitat Action Grants

Angling clubs, individuals, community groups, local councils and organisations interested in rehabilitating fish habitats in freshwater and saltwater areas throughout NSW can apply for grants.

Habitat rehabilitation projects which may be funded include:

- removal or modification of barriers to fish passage
- rehabilitation of riparian lands (river banks, wetlands, mangrove forests, saltmarsh)
- re-snagging waterways with timber structure
- removal of exotic vegetation from waterways
- bank stabilisation works
- reinstatement of natural flow regimes



Applications are now open and close on 30 September. Application forms at http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/habitat/rehabilitating/ahr-grants-program

For further information please contact the Habitat Action Grants Administrator on fish.habitat@dpi.nsw.gov.au or ring (02) 6626 1396 or (02) 4916 3817

#### NSW Environmental Trust Restoration & Rehabilitation Grants

The Restoration and Rehabilitation grants program is now open for applications. The closing date is 3pm Monday 26 September 2016. Funded by the NSW Environmental Trust, the program encourages and enables community and government organisations to protect, conserve and restore our valuable natural environment.

#### Aim of the program

The aim of the Restoration and Rehabilitation Program is to facilitate projects run by community organisations and government entities working to prevent or reduce environmental degradation of any kind. Through these projects, we also aim to improve the capacity of communities and organisations to protect, restore and enhance the environment.

#### **Objectives**

The objectives of the Restoration and Rehabilitation program are:

- to restore degraded environmental resources, including rare and endangered ecosystems
- to protect important ecosystems and habitats of rare and endangered flora and fauna
- to prevent or minimise future environmental damage
- to enhance the quality of specific environmental resources
- to improve the capacity of eligible organisations to protect, restore and enhance the environment
- to prevent or reduce pollution.

#### **Funding**

A total of \$4 million is available under the 2016/17 round of the Restoration and Rehabilitation grants program. This includes:

- \$2 million for projects by community organisations
- \$2 million for projects by government entities.

Grants of between \$5,000 and \$100,000 are available.

Guidelines and application forms at http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/restoration.htm

## **Community Litter Grants**

Community Litter Grants are open to Community Groups and non-for- profit organisations to address a littering issue in their local area.

Funding of up to \$5000 is available for a variety of litter reduction initiatives, including but not limited to:

- Infrastructure updates and/or installations
- Community engagement
- Clean ups
- Litter reduction education

#### 2 step process:

- Step 1 : Complete a Local Litter Check of the area receive \$500
- Step 2: Develop a Litter Reduction campaign and apply for up to \$5000 in funding

A Handbook with eligibility and step by step instructions, application forms and a range of resources are available on the Keep NSW Beautiful's website <a href="www.knswb.org.au">www.knswb.org.au</a>

Twenty lucky participants were recently shown around the stunning rainforest at Don Edwards property near Wollumbin/Mt Warning National Park by bush regenerator Mark Evans. Don has been carrying out restoration work on the property for four decades.

This event was part of the six year project funded through the NSW Environmental Trust Community Bush Regeneration Large Project Stream and called Mid Tweed River and Mt Warning connections of HCV vegetation. The project is in the fifth year of bush regeneration on five participating properties.



# Volunteering opportunities with local care groups

	Location of site	Workday/ time	Contact for day
Coastal groups			
Fingal Head Coastcare	Meet at Coastcare nursery off the lighthouse track	Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 8 - 11 am Saturday 9am - 12pm	Kay Bolton 0402 839 479
Kingscliff Community Dunecare	Currently meeting on south side of Cudgen Creek, near the Toilet Block. This changes as worksite moves.	Tuesday and Thursday 8 - 10am	Peter Langley 02 6674 5362
Friends of Cudgen Nature Reserve	Meet at Sliprails Rd or Clothiers Creek Rd	2nd Saturday 8 – 10am	Chris Core 0407 762 108 or John McDonagh 0421 657 960
North Casuarina Beach Dunecare	Working from track 1 south.	Generally weekly but no specific day/ time.	Ross Pierce 02 6674 2788
Hastings Point Dunecare	Meet at shipping container on Tweed Coast Road just north of North Star Holiday Park	Every Tuesday and Thursday 7 - 9am	Arthur Good (Goody) 02 6676 0880 0428 760 000
Pottsville Community Dunecare	Mooball Beach dunes - exact location determined Wednesday before.	Every Monday 7 - 9am (Except April)	Bill Hoskins 0431 712 726
Cabarita Beach Dunecare	Saturday & Wednesday meet at shipping container just south of the Primary School.	1st Saturday 8:30 - 11am 2nd Wednesday 9 - 10:30 am	Saturday & Wednesday: Faye Nash 02 6676 2331
	Tuesday meet at the Cabarita Sports and Bowls Club	3rd Tuesday 1 - 3pm (nursery)	Tuesday: Annie Pollard 0415 896 949
Valley groups			
Byrrill Creek Landcare	Meet at Pretty Gully, 564 Byrrill Creek Rd, Byrrill Creek.	2nd Sunday 8.30am - 12.30pm	Joanna Gardner 02 6679 7039
Bilambil Landcare	Meet at entrance to worksite next to the bridge, Bilambil Rd, Bilambil	Tuesdays 9am	Gary Austin 0427 269 486
Friends of Wollumbin	Kyogle Road, Byangum, 3 km south of Byangum bridge, at the green container on Tweed River.	1st Saturday 8am - 12 noon This months workday is 2nd Saturday – 9 May	Roland 0417 253 767 or lan 02 6679 5441
	Kyogle Road, Byangum, 1 km south of Byangum bridge on the new planting site.	3rd Thursday 8am – 12 noon	

Contacts for all local groups can be found on the Tweed Landcare Inc website at <a href="http://www.tweedlandcare.org.au">http://www.tweedlandcare.org.au</a> under 'Local Groups'.

If you decide to come along please wear protective clothing i.e. long pants, long-sleeved shirt; closed in shoes, hat, garden gloves and bring water, sunscreen and insect repellent.