



LAND FOR WILDLIFE

New South Wales & ACT

"The National Program run by Locals"



Number 15 – October 2019

Hello Land for Wildlifers,

Land for Wildlife (LfW) is steadily growing and will shortly reach 2000 in NSW and the ACT. Just 22 to go. Regional Providers are welcome to contact CEN if it is a suitable time for training or talks on connectivity conservation is available.

The Land for Wildlife Biennial Forum will be held on 27th and 28th March 2020 in Coffs Harbour. On the Friday we will listen to expert speakers and then workshop issues, while on the second day we will have a coach available to look at some Land for Wildlife properties. Please note the date in your diary and let me know if you have a good story to tell.



At our 2017 Queanbeyan Forum, Guardian Dogs were discussed. A friend has purchased one to look after his free range chooks. The result is happy chooks and dog but the foxes and feral cats are not happy.

CEN has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the *Biodiversity Conservation Trust* to co-operate on connectivity conservation. In addition, we are currently finalising a new Partnership Agreement with the *Great Eastern Ranges Alliance*. Both these organisations will be represented at Forum 2020 for discussions.

Attended a meeting at Taronga Zoo to discuss a Yellow Bellied Glider project. I was surprised at how large an animal YBGs are. If you have YBGs, let me know to pass on your details to the project team at Sydney University.



Our newest Regional Provider is Bellinger Landcare at Bellingen. They will be working with Envite to deliver LFW and support local communities.

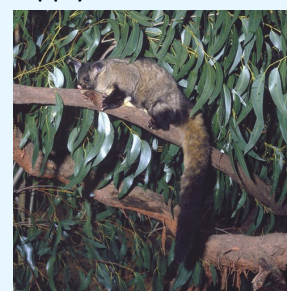
Cheers
John

If you have any stories or information to share, or would like to contact me, please email: lfwnsw@cen.org.au

BCT Conservation Partners Grants in NSW

The BCT's Conservation Partners Grants aim to assist BCT agreement holders to actively protect or improve the ecological value of their properties. Landholders participating in the Community Environment Network's Land for Wildlife program are eligible to apply for these grants.

Funding is available for activities such as fencing, weed control, introduced pest animal control and habitat restoration.



Applications will be funded if they are eligible, complete and meet the assessment criteria, and if the BCT has available funding.

For members of the Land for Wildlife Program in NSW, funding is available up to \$2,000 / year for up to 3 years.

Eligible landholders can apply for grants at any time. You will need to complete an on line application form (<https://www.bct.nsw.gov.au/cards/conservation-grants>) providing costing and details of the works you are proposing.

Applications will be assessed against the following pass/fail criteria:

- The need for the activity has been demonstrated
- The activity is good value for money as it is a reasonable cost compared to similar activities.
- The approach to undertaking the activity is sound and it will deliver results to maintain the conservation values of the property.

If you receive a grant, you will need to sign an agreement or letter (for smaller grants). You will then receive the first grant instalment to begin the agreed works. You will need to report on the works and acquit the grant.



NORTH: Envite at Coffs Harbour by Mick Webb

Envite have completed National Landcare Program – Environment Small Grants project, “**Land for Wildlife Ecological Restoration Orara Valley**”. Restoration activities were completed across 3 Land for Wildlife properties improving health and connectivity of native vegetation. Habitat for both seasonal and migration links for fauna species including threatened species Koala were enhanced. The connectivity between larger areas was improved through the removal of weeds and revegetation. Activities included weed control targeting WONS Lantana and other weeds that pose significant threat to biodiversity including Privet, Senna, Tradescantia and Camphor Laurel. Best practice weed control techniques were used to ensure high efficacy of control to eliminate large thickets of weeds. Foliar spraying and splatter gun were used for primary control on the large infestation of Lantana.



A follow up program managed growth of all regenerating weed species after the initial primary disturbance, including cut, scrap and paint of weeds not sprayed due to risk of off target damage and a combination of follow up spot spraying or hand pulling weed regrowth or germinating weeds. Revegetation of the riparian zone of locally endemic species occurred to assist in improving bank stabilisation and vegetation communities including critically endangered Lowland Rainforest located in the project area. Landholders participated in the on ground works by working alongside bush regenerators and are committed in ensuring there Land for Wildlife properties support ecological function across the landscape.



*(Photo credits
M. Webb)*

North Coast Overview

Regional Landcare Network has a boundary which aligns with the North Coast Local Land Services Region in northern NSW. This region extends from Tweed Shire Council in the north to Port Macquarie-Hastings Council in the south, and west to the dividing range.

There are 11 **Regional Providers** in the north coast region, each with LFW agreements with CEN.

Many Land for Wildlife organisations are also partners in the **Great Eastern Ranges Alliance (GER)**. The GER is also able to build on the strong core of National Parks and other conservation lands in northern NSW.

A note from Ken Williams Land for Wildlife in Georgica:

Dear John,

I have been a member of the LFW organization for a few years now and we continue to work hard at returning our ex cattle property(40 ha) back to 100% native habitat. (We currently have an application with the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust for a VCA on the property and await assessment.)

*In the last year we have also got a small community group up and running which is going very well. Called the **Grass Roots Mentoring Group** it is designed to help and guide local people just getting started on the regeneration and restoration journey.*

I have just received the Dec. issue (No.14) LFW newsletter. As usual, I found the information very interesting. Here is the link to our facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Grass-Roots-Mentoring-Group-2054189587924578/>

Photos received (New Photos are always welcome)

Credit: Pat and John of Clarence Environment Centre, Grafton





Australian River Restoration Centre

Land for Wildlife is a partner in the Rivers of Carbon project (ROC) in Goulburn. The amount of in-kind commitment and support landholders and the Rivers of Carbon team give to these projects is incredible. ROC covers many other projects.



(Credit: ROC photo of treated Willow)

Willows are among the worst weeds in Australia because of their invasiveness, potential for spread, and economic and environmental impacts. Reducing invasive willow species along the upper Murrumbidgee River within the Bredbo Gorge, returned a significant amount of water to the environment.

(Source: <https://riversofcarbon.org.au>)

SOUTH :

Wingecarribee, Congratulations on Ten Years of Land for Wildlife in the Southern Highlands “

Land for Wildlife celebrated its 10th anniversary with a field trip to Berrima with experts on platypus, river restoration, koalas and glossy black cockatoos. Over the years, they have signed up 135 properties to Land for Wildlife – representing 3% of all private land in the LGA. This year we have had an exponential growth in applications, with an additional 30 properties. Here's to another 10 years of Land for Wildlife in the Southern Highlands – congratulations to everyone involved!



Central Coast: Marina Tretiach in Matcham

We caught up with Marina Tretiach to chat about her work rehabilitating flying foxes. There is good connectivity of her property with other areas of bushland, Marina is able to provide a soft-releasing facility for flying foxes. Orphaned babies are common. At about 12 weeks the young animals start to fly, at which point they are ready for crèche where they learn to integrate with other young flying foxes and their contact with humans is decreased. This may take a month or more depending on the animal's maturity. They can then be 'soft released' where they foray out into the surrounding bushland. although they are still able to roost and feed in the safety of the release aviary. The transition to wild bushland is made when local adult males show the rehabilitated juveniles where to find food and company. Marina said: "they are looking for release sites for rehabilitated animals, especially on Land for Wildlife Properties."



Molonglo Conservation Group are now located centrally at Fyshwick in the ACT.



For help with a range of services including:

- environmentally sensitive weed control wildlife friendly fencing
- bush regeneration
- property planning and mapping
- bushfire APZ plans and hazard reduction
- Aboriginal cultural land management advice
- biodiversity (flora and fauna) assessments
- pre-purchase rural block inspections.

Talk to them during your property visit or send an email.

To find out more go to:

<http://molonglocatchment.org.au/>

Email: communications@molonglo.org.au



Community Environment Network
PO Box 149
OURIMBAH NSW 2258

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AUSTRALIA

Biodiversity Conservation Trust (BCT) MoU with CEN

The objectives of the MoU are to jointly contribute to complementary entry level private land conservation programs in NSW. The BCT is a statutory organization in NSW. The BCT's mission is to maximise the biodiversity conservation outcomes achieved with the public and private resources entrusted in the BCT to support private land conservation, to deliver a healthy, productive and resilient environment across NSW.

The Community Environment Network (CEN), is a not for profit, non-government, volunteer based incorporated association. CEN supports and advocates for Ecological Sustainability (ESD) and co-ordinates Land for Wildlife and across NSW and the ACT.

BCT Conservation Agreements

The BCT's Conservation Management Program (CMP) is aimed at encouraging and supporting private landholders, in 'priority investment areas' or with 'conservation assets' on their property, to participate in conservation. There are 3 kinds of **agreements** available through the BCT:

- Biodiversity stewardship agreements;
- Conservation agreements; and
- Wildlife refuge agreements.

There are also Conservation Tenders offered to landholders, depending on BCT priorities. For more information on these opportunities see:

See: <https://www.bct.nsw.gov.au/>

Newsletter printed with 100% recycled paper.

There is *Something for Everyone* with Land for Wildlife & Habitat for Wildlife

Land for Wildlife is a voluntary property registration scheme for rural landholders with half a hectare of native bushland or more and that aims to assist landholders to maintain wildlife habitats on their land. Registration is free and non-binding. The good faith agreement between the CEN and landholders does not change the legal status of the properties, and information is confidential.



Habitat for Wildlife is a program available for urban or rural landholders who are interested in wildlife conservation but who are remote or may not have a large bushland remnant on their property.



Smaller holdings can provide safe havens for wildlife moving between larger bushland areas. The program is available on the Central Coast, Lake Macquarie, Tweed, Wingecarribee and soon to be in Googong.

Otherwise, anyone can join via **Habitat for Wildlife on Line**, where for a small \$20 fee, registrants will receive a membership certificate, a HFW sign and a resource kit.

Links: www.cen.org.au/CEN-Projects/Habitat-for-Wildlife™/ Information resources available to download are found at: www.cen.org.au/Habitat-for-Wildlife™/fact-sheets7.html

After reading, please pass this newsletter on to a friend who may be interested in Land for Wildlife and visit: <http://cen.org.au/Land-for-Wildlife/>



Land for Wildlife - NSW
Community Environment Network
PO Box 149
Ourimbah NSW 2258
Ph: 4349 4756
Fax: 4349 4755
Email: lfwnsw@cen.org.au
Web: www.cen.org.au/projects/land-for-wildlife
 www.facebook.com/lfwhawkesburytohunter

LfW State Coordination is supported by the NSW
Biodiversity Conservation Trust.
We thank them for their assistance.



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