



LAND FOR WILDLIFE

New South Wales

"The National Program run by Locals"



Number 9 – December 2013

Hello Land for Wildlifers,

Land for Wildlife NSW has a new staff member! I would like to introduce Carolyn Smith (pictured below) who started in September. As well as administration, Carolyn has a horticulture and forestry background and will be working to support state coordination for our Regional Providers.

Land for Wildlife has been busy with training, with approximately 58 assessors trained in 2013. New Regional Providers are being established in Boorowra, Kempsey, Upper Lachlan and Tenterfield.

Best wishes to all our members, friends and supporters for Christmas and the New Year.

Cheers
John



Land for Wildlife Forum 2013

The 2013 Forum was a celebration of biodiversity as 40 LFW delegates gathered at Waverton to hear from guest speakers and network with friends and supporters alike to share ideas and information.

The venue at the Coal Loader Centre for Sustainability, at Waverton in Sydney, impressed delegates and the generosity of North Sydney Council for use of this facility was greatly appreciated.

Members heard from a fantastic array of speakers, with the opening address given by Bryce Wilde, Executive Director National Resources Commission (pictured top right) who spoke with great passion about resilience and people power when it comes to natural resource management.

Other speakers included:

- Ramin Khosravi of North Sydney Council;
- Rob Dunn, CEO of the Great Eastern Ranges Initiative;
- Susanna Bradshaw, CEO of the Foundation for National Parks and Wildlife; and
- Bruce Thompson of the Conservation Partners Program, New South Wales Office of Environment and Heritage.

A national roundup was provided by Peter Johnstone of LFW Victoria, and a state roundup was provided by John Asquith, Chairman of CEN. Both had stories of great regional provider accomplishments.

Copies of the presentations can be viewed at:

www.cen.org.au/Land-for-Wildlife/Land-for-Wildlife-Forum-Presentations/



An informative presentation by Bryce Wilde ED Natural Resources Commission was a great way to start the forum

Central Coast Field Trip

Day two of the Forum saw close to 20 delegates make the trip north to view two properties on the Central Coast, at Ourimbah and Palmdale.

The property at Ourimbah showcased good quality bushland and the work the owner has completed as well as the contribution CEN has made.

The Palmdale property was a result of 17 years of self-management by the owners that thoroughly impressed delegates and provided a wealth of knowledge.

Sponsors and Supporters of the Forum

After another successful forum, CEN would like to acknowledge the support of the following:

Office of Environment & Heritage, North Sydney Council, Great Eastern Ranges Initiative and Foundation for National Parks and Wildlife.



We look forward to seeing you at the next LFW Forum in 2016

Field Trip participants delighted with the day; finishing up at the Weston's property at Palmdale



Land for Wildlife receives GER Grant

September saw the NSW Coordinator for Land for Wildlife, the Community Environment Network (CEN) receive the GER grant for 'Building Land for Wildlife in the Great Eastern Ranges'.

NSW Minister for the Environment, Robyn Parker announced the winners of the 2013 Great Eastern Ranges Initiative grants program at a function in Sydney.

CEN Chairman John Asquith attended the ceremony to receive the grant. The grant will enable 4 Regional Providers of Land for Wildlife to support biodiversity.

Each group nominated an on-ground project in their region, Northern Landcare Support Services in Kyogle, Manning Landcare in Wingham, PLANS in Palerang and Molonglo Catchment group in Queanbeyan will share the grant.



NSW Minister for the Environment, Robyn Parker presents John Asquith, Chairman of CEN with the GER Grant



CEN supports the Great Eastern Ranges Initiative

Around the Regions

Land for Wildlife has two new Regional Providers, Macleay Landcare and the Citizens Wildlife Corridors Armidale. Macleay Landcare, have 4 trained assessors ready to begin in 2014 in the Kempsey area.

Macleay Landcare office is located at:
Kempsey Showground at 19 Sea St, Kempsey
(02) 6562 2076.

Citizens Wildlife Corridors Inc (CWC), in partnership with Granite Borders Landcare Committee will be covering the Tenterfield area, with 12 new assessors recently trained at Glen Innes.

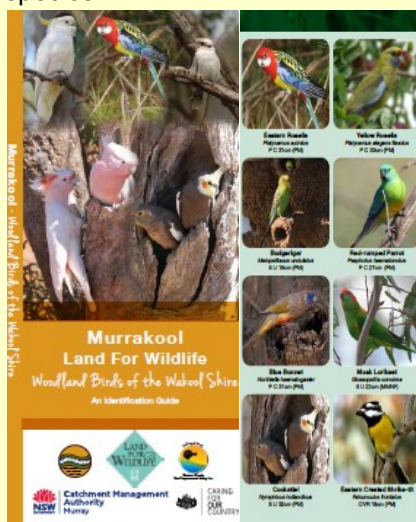
CWC can be contacted on (02) 8004 8402 or

office@cwcc-armidale.org.au

Murrakool Land for Wildlife Bird Brochure Released - "Woodland Birds of the Wakool Shire"

Murrakool Land for Wildlife has recently released a bird guide on woodland birds in the Wakool Shire.

The guide is designed to fit in the glove box of your car so it can be readily accessed to assist in identification of local species.



The guide provides a map of the area and some photos of different habitat types that typically support good populations of birds featured in the pamphlet.

The bird identification guide includes a status symbol on whether a species is a permanent resident, seasonal, local or international migrant, occasional or irregular visitor or an introduced species.

The other status symbol provided is of species abundance which ranges from common to very rare. This is a subjective category based on experience in the area of probability of occurrence by the authors.

The guide costs \$3.00 and is available for purchase from information centres in towns in the Wakool Shire.

Proceeds from the sale of the guides will be used to produce another wildlife identification guide for the area.

Wingecarribee Council—Wildlife Camera Traps

Wingecarribee Council has been collecting images and videos of wildlife during the day and at night, using a couple of digital infra-red cameras. These are available for use by Land for Wildlife registered property owners, to monitor and photograph wildlife.

Below are images of a wombat and brushtail possum taken by the cameras on properties in Colo Vale and Aylmerton respectively.





What's in the Box? By Kathryn Kermode LFW member Kyogle

I've spent the day learning about the creatures that require hollows for habitat and making a habitat box for gliders. For me the box making was the highlight of an interesting day spent with Tara and Peter at Northern Landcare Supports Services office in Kyogle.

This workshop was funded by the National Parks and Wildlife Foundation for Land For Wildlife members. The box was my kind of kit, making it was as simple as unwrapping the flat pack and screwing together a few bits of predrilled plywood, all I needed was a Phillips head screwdriver. But this is the easy bit of the task as my tall partner points out as we leave, for he knows only too well that it will be him who will be climbing trees this weekend doing the tricky bit of the installation while I have my feet firmly on the ground holding the ladder steady with one hand while I pass up drills, bolts and boxes with the other.

We have done this before; my first hollow log home was constructed with a hardwood face screwed onto a plywood box. Its natural hole was too small or the box was too clumsy and big so it was only suited to small creatures that were not fussy about their hollow log home. It had a hinged lid so we could inspect any creatures that moved or clean out the box if it was invaded by ferals such as Honey Bees or Indian Mynas. This I learnt was unnecessary as to be honest after installing the box in a tree on a far away hill there was no chance of us ever lugging the ladder back up the hill for an inspection.



We installed the old box in a shady bit of bush where there was a variety of different species and a great view. I then waited for something to find my box appealing.

A few weeks later a massive bolt of lightning struck the cluster of trees, it blew the epiphytes off the tree trunks and sent woodchips from the guts of the beautiful big ribbonwood flying in all directions. Three big trees died but my wildlife box survived even though the now naked patch of sticks seemed a less appealing place to live. Finally after several years something did move in to my box and I spied a small furred face peering from the entrance hole. My excitement was short

lived though for when I returned to check on the residents I found my box lying on the ground, the spring I had used to allow for the expansion of the tree had rusted through and brought the box down.

The box spent the next couple of years sitting on top of the pile of unfinished projects, that is until Tara and Peter inspired me again.



We have installed my new glider box on the trunk of a Yellow Stringybark and already I am anxious for something to move in. There are various methods for installing wildlife boxes and it is a good idea to do some research before deciding which the best for your situation is. Alan and Stacey Franks have some great tips and easy designs for wildlife boxes in their book, Nest Boxes for Wildlife. They also sell boxes that are ready to install. Flat pack nest boxes for a wide variety of creatures can be obtained from Nest Boxes

Australia. (www.nestingboxes.com.au) these are very simple boxes to construct and would make a great project for interested kids.



Many thanks to Kathryn Kermode for her inspiring story!

If you have a Land for Wildlife story you would like to share, we would love to hear from you!

Please let your LFW Regional Provider know and we will try to include in our next Newsletter.



Land for Wildlife

Land for Wildlife is a voluntary property registration scheme 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 land holders does not change the legal status of the properties, and information is confidential.

Does my property qualify?

The program is available to landholders who:

- Have properties with half a hectare or more of native bush land
- Are willing to manage all or part of their property in an environmentally sustainable way

The Land for Wildlife program is available to private landholders who own properties ranging from small bush blocks up to large farming and grazing operations.

Schools and council managed public land may also qualify for Land for Wildlife.

What does Land for wildlife do?

The key feature of the land for wildlife program is the signage and environmental property assessments the organisation provides free to land holders.

In addition to environmental property assessments, LfW gives landholders the opportunity to participate in workshops, meet like minded people and receive up to date information via fact sheets and regular newsletters.

Support from the Great Eastern Ranges Initiative

The CEN Land for Wildlife program has now been accepted as an affiliate organization of the Great Eastern Ranges Initiative. This means the program will be concentrating on building memberships in the nearly 80 local government areas covered by the GER.

Can I help?

Yes. If you have local vegetation or habitat assessment skills we need volunteer assessors. CEN will provide training, support and some resources.

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/>

Habitat for Wildlife Online



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

Smaller holdings can provide safe havens for wildlife moving between larger bushland areas.

For a small fee, registrants will receive a membership certificate, a small HFW sign, a resource kit and a newsletter for two years. You will be able to register online in early 2014.

Visit the website to find out more:

<http://www.cen.org.au/CEN-Projects/Habitat-for-Wildlife™/>

Information resources available to download are found at:

<http://cen.org.au/Habitat-for-Wildlife™/fact-sheets7.html>



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