

Carp in the Hastings

Carp sightings have been reported from several areas of the Hastings including the Hastings River near Beechwood, Wrights Creek and Mimosa Park (The Lilypond) in Port Macquarie and in Cowarra Dam, near Wauchope.

The NSW Carp Control Plan, recently released by the Department of Industry and Investment, indicates that not all of the sightings have been confirmed.

The carp control plan, available at www.industry.nsw.gov.au, highlights the need to take action sooner rather than later in areas such as the Hastings where carp has only recently been found.

Lookout for carp and Contact Landcare to be involved in reducing the spread of carp.



*Supporting Voluntary Natural
Resource Management in the
Hastings, Camden Haven and
Wilson River Catchments*

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Celebrate World Wetlands Day in the Hastings

Would you like to learn more about your local bird species? WetlandCare Australia and Hastings Landcare are hosting a Barbeque with the Birds on February 19 from 3pm (for a couple of hours), with a barbeque provided. All community members are welcome to this event to celebrate World Wetlands Day 2011 which will give participants an insight into the wonderful birds that inhabit our precious wetlands.

The Barbeque with the Birds will focus on the importance of wetlands, particularly local forested wetlands (such as mangrove, paperbark and Casuarina forests) for species including waders, shorebirds and migratory birds. The afternoon will include bird watching and identification and talks by local representatives on the importance of our wetlands.

Wetlands and forests – forests for water and wetlands is the theme of World Wetlands Day 2011. World Wetlands Day (February 2) is globally celebrated each year to mark the signing of the Ramsar Convention which acknowledges wetlands of international importance. The purpose of World Wetlands Day is to raise public awareness of wetland values, to promote wetland protection and to encourage conservation efforts towards wetland sustainability. This year, 2011 is the 40th anniversary of the Ramsar Convention which also coincides with the 20th anniversary of WetlandCare Australia.

2011 is also Year of The Bat and International Year of Forests, celebrating people's action to sustainably manage the world's forests.

To register for this World Wetlands Day event or for further information please contact Hastings Landcare on (02) 6586 4465.



Weed Warriors



Late 2010 saw a group of Landcarers get together with Lesley Postle from NSW Industry and Investment and a veritable “who’s who” of Bitou Bush and biological control experts. Here we are examining bitou tip moth and seed fly at Flynn’s Beach. Both are widespread biological control agents. “Weed Warriors” involves schools in breeding, releasing and monitoring biological control agents. Camden Haven High year 8 Geography will be raising bitou leaf roller moths (*Tortrix* sp.) in 2011.

Compost Tea “PlaceStory”

online <http://ps3beta.com/story/15728>

H o l i s t i c M a n a g e m e n t

subsidised courses start soon in Kempsey and Wingham. Contact Brian Wehlburg on 65874353

Cool Temperate Rainforest Restoration

Field Trip to Werrikimbe National Park

30th Sept - 1st Oct 2010

The call went out - help was needed to plant out a large number of very important seedling trees. Peter Clark from National Parks & Wildlife Service asked Port Macquarie Landcare to assist with this task, and 8 of us from PMLG and other members of NPWS staff headed off to Camerons Camp, in the Werrikimbe National Park.

Approximately 50km west of Port Macquarie, the Plateau Beech camping area has been a popular destination for bushwalkers and four-wheel drivers for many years. Surrounded by ancient Gondwanan rainforest, it is part of a World Heritage listed site.

Deep within a cool temperate rainforest at the top of the Hastings catchment, there are Antarctic Beech and Coachwood trees, waterfalls; and endangered fauna such as the Yellow-bellied Glider and Spotted-tailed Quoll. The Werrikimbe wilderness represents the second largest area of cool temperate rainforest in NSW, only Barrington Tops is larger.

The seedlings to be planted were Antarctic Beech *Nothofagus moorei* and Coachwood *Ceratopetalum apetalum*, both now rare and valuable trees.

Over the past four years Dr Ross Peacock from the DECCW has been running

a scientific study on climate change and how the ancient Gondwana cool temperate rainforests will respond to global warming. These same volunteers have helped over this time to collect rainforest seedlings from the Werrikimbe NP and pot them up at the Landcare Community Nursery in Port Macquarie.

A small convoy of 4WD vehicles traveled for nearly 2 hours, into the upper Hastings Valley, to get to the Plateau Beech Reserve that was being prepared, so that it could be planted out.

Arriving at the site we were all excited about the task at hand and while there was a delay to get started, we had a look around at the large and very old Antarctic Beech trees growing in the area. A few of us walked around the waterfall loop trail.

Soon the real work had to start, digging holes in the rocky soil, laying out the plants in rows, adding TerraCottem® to the holes, then putting the seedlings into the hole and back filling with soil.

A wire fence was being constructed around this planting area to protect the plants from grazing animals. Then staking and bagging, watering in, and a quick clean up to finish off the day.

Then back to our overnight accommodation in the hut

at Camerons Camp and after sorting out sleeping arrangements, the ‘Full House’ sign needed to be put out. Some light refreshments and conversation followed while food was being prepared in the kitchen. An after dinner walk and spotlight tour of the area with Ranger Andy revealed some fauna activity, and after that some well deserved rest.

The main task was to plant rainforest trees at nearby Plateau Beech, but the group also went spotlighting for nocturnal animals, collected quoll scats and observed fox trapping techniques.

Next morning after breakfast, it was pack up and head back to Plateau Beech to continue with the planting of these seedlings.

Overall result was 753 seedlings into the ground, with TerraCottem®, staking, bagging, and then watered in.

Many thanks to Peter Clark at National Parks and his staff for supplying the food and arranging the event, and thanks to members of PM Landcare Group for their participation

Bruno Ryan
Vice President
Port Macquarie Landcare
Oct 2010



Port Macquarie Landcare Group at Plateau Beech in Werrikimbe National Park



Biological Farming Seminars

featuring Gary Zimmer and Bob Yanda

The seminars are to be held at Taree on 15th & 16th March, 2011. Early bird discount applies to bookings made before the end of January.

There will be a dinner at the conclusion of the first seminar day to provide attendees with the informal environment to interact with each other and the speakers.

Gary Zimmer and Bob Yanda are also planning to visit Canberra to discuss biological farming practices and their contribution to carbon capture with Australian policy makers.

BioNEW considers food, water and energy security three of the most pressing economic, environmental and social issues facing the planet. We offer biological formulations to improve soil, plant, water and animal health and are dedicated to supporting the sustainability of Australian agriculture.

BioNEW is proud to be able to bring Gary Zimmer and Bob Yanda to Australia to coincide with the Australian release of Gary's new book titled "Advancing Biological Farming" practicing mineralized balanced agriculture.

The speakers at the seminars include:

Gary Zimmer is a farmer, author, agri-businessman and educator dedicated to biological agriculture, and in world-wide demand as a speaker. Gary is the author of the best selling book "The biological farmer, a complete guide to the sustainable and profitable biological system of farming."

Bob Yanda is a biological farming consultant and seminar speaker who has worked with Gary for 20 years.

Dr Wayne Backhouse, BVSC MRur.Sc MACVS MRCVS. Dr Backhouse is a three time Australian Olympic equestrian veterinarian and an expert in ruminants.

Brian Leihn is an Australian biological farmer.

We appreciate the support of Landcare in our endeavour to promote biological farming practices. Contact Jenny Michael on **1300 711 367**

NSW Boaters and Fishers – WE NEED YOUR IDEAS!!!

Whatever your involvement with boating and fishing in freshwater or saltwater we are seeking your opinions and ideas about a new education project.

We are asking you to complete a brief (approx. 7-min) survey so you can have your say.

The valuable information collected will be used to develop an environmental education strategy to help maintain the quality of your favourite recreational sport for you, your children and your grandchildren.

You could even win a voucher for your favourite boating or fishing tackle store!

This project is being conducted jointly by all the NSW Coastal Catchment Management Authorities and a number of project partners.

The closing date for the survey is Wednesday 16th February 2011.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MTTKMDC>

Trapping Indian Mynas

Lots of callers to Hastings Landcare ask the question, where can I get a trap.

There are 3 ways this can be achieved

Buy one – The Hastings Mens Shed is selling traps to the community for \$55. Call Peter Nash on 0448 504312 to place your order.

Build your own – plans for a trap can be found on our website hastingslandcare.org.au

Ring our office on 6586 4465 and go on our waiting list

If you spot these birds in your neighbourhood have a chat to your neighbours and work out the best approach. The first two methods of obtaining a trap are obviously the quickest way to start trapping, as our waiting list is fairly long.

Also have a look at what may have attracted them to your area. The most common reason is easy food sources e.g. leaving food for pets outside or feeding native birds etc and not cleaning up the leftovers.

Have a look at our website for more information and links to other sites.



Community Environment Network— Land for Wildlife

Community Environment Network (CEN) co-ordinates the “Land for Wildlife” program in NSW and Hastings Landcare Inc has agreed to be the Regional Provider within the Hastings catchment. The project will be managed by Matt Bailey and Vanessa McTyer.

Why is maintaining land for wildlife so important?

The vast majority of NSW land is privately owned. This puts private landholders in a unique position to improve their sustainability and help create natural havens for wildlife on their property. Wildlife links are formed between animal habitats by riparian strips, ridge lines or other intact bushland. These corridors are important because fragmented bush creates bush islands that are far from one another and therefore impact on the sustainability of wildlife populations.

What is Land for Wildlife?

The Land for Wildlife (LfW) program is a voluntary property registration scheme for landholders who wish to manage areas for biodiversity and wildlife habitat. LfW encourages and assists landholders to include nature conservation along with other land management objectives. Registration is free and non binding. The good faith agreement is between the CEN and landholders and does not change the legal status of the property. All information is confidential.

What does Land for Wildlife do?

The key feature of the LfW program is the environmental property assessments the organisation provides free to land holders.

These assessments include:

Individual consultations to determine the environmental sustainability of your property and assess any management issues.

Site reports advising on how to manage environmental issues such as erosion, wildlife habitats and weed control.

Species lists identifying native and exotic plants that may be growing on your property.

Advice on how to integrate wildlife conservation into the property's usual farming/management practices.

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 facts sheets and regular newsletters.

Does my property qualify?

The program is available to landholders who:

Have properties with half a hectare or more of native bushland.

Are willing to manage all or part of their property in an environmentally sustainable way.

If you want to learn more then go to our website hastingslandcare.org.au or the Community Environment Network site cen.org.au or contact the office on 6586 4465.

Landholder Expressions of Interest forms are also available on our website or by contacting the office.



2011 Northern Rivers Landcare

Nominations for the 2011 Northern Rivers Landcare Awards are open and will close on Monday **21st February, 2011**. Individuals or groups can nominate themselves or others for the awards. Nomination guidelines and forms can be downloaded from the Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority and Hastings Landcare web sites.

Categories are:

[Individual Landcarer Award](#)

[Urban Landcare Award](#)

[Innovation in Sustainable Farm Practices Award](#)

[Indigenous Award](#)

[Local Landcare Facilitator/Coordinator Award](#)

[Young Landcare Leader Award](#)

[Local Government Landcare Partnership Award](#)

[Coastcare Award](#)

[Landcare Primary Producer Award](#)

[Community Group Award](#)

[Northern Rivers Soil Health Award](#)

[Schools Education Award](#)

Winners will be announced at the 2011 Northern Rivers Landcare Awards Presentation and Celebration event to be held in Grafton, on **Friday the 1st of April 2011**.



Wycare will host the NSW 2011 Coastal Volunteers Forum in Wollongong, from 27 February to 1 March 2011. The 2011 Coastal Volunteers Forum is an opportunity for NSW coastal and marine volunteers and landholders from NSW to come together and showcase their achievements and skills. Thanks to the support of the Australian Government's Caring for our Country Programme through the Hunter Rivers CMA, the NSW 2011 Coastal Volunteers Forum will provide an opportunity for people to: exchange ideas about cooperative community approaches to creating healthy coastal landscapes and lifestyles and consider future issues; build on the contributions made in previous NSW Dunecare Conferences; swap stories of triumphs and tribulations; showcase their projects in the exhibition area; make new friendships over a bite to eat and share a laugh during the celebratory dinner.

The 2011 Coastal Volunteers Forum will feature a number of outstanding speakers, several concurrent sessions, workshops, panel discussions field trips and poster presentations. It is the continued effort of the community working with government and business and our overall community spirit that will bring about a better understanding and management of coastal issues and ensure that future generations have the opportunity to enjoy our beautiful and unique marine and coastal environments. The event is sponsored by the Australian Government's Caring for our Country Programme and Wollongong City Council and supported by the five coastal Catchment Management Authorities. For further information, programs and registration forms contact Wycare 175 Pollock Ave, Wyong 2259 or phone 43521199 or email wycare@bigpond.com or visit www.wycare.com.au

Myrtle Rust Update

Biosecurity Queensland has confirmed that Myrtle rust has been detected at three plant nurseries in Brisbane's north. Biosecurity Queensland has been working with the affected properties over the Christmas and New Year period to identify any plants that have been infected with myrtle rust, treat them and remove them. Disease control measures have been put in place on each of the infected properties to prevent any further spread.

Anyone who has recently purchased Myrtaceae plants from South East Queensland should inspect the plants for signs of Myrtle rust and report anything suspicious to the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline on 1800 084 881.

If you are moving between patches of bush, launder your clothing before moving between sites, including gloves and hats.

Get to know what myrtle rust looks like and if you suspect you have seen it, take photographs, NOT LEAF SAMPLES and send pictures to biosecurity@industry.nsw.gov.au.

For more information on Myrtle Rust visit www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/plant/myrtle-rust.



Contact Us

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open Tuesday to Friday

Important Dates

Saltwater Freshwater Festival, Westport Park, Port Macquarie	26 January
Hastings Landcare Inc meeting	16 February
Northern Rivers Landcare Awards, nominations closing	21 February
World Wetlands Day BBQ with the Birds	19 February
Education for Sustainability Workshops, Coffs Harbour	21&22 Feb
Coastal Volunteers forum, Wollongong	27 Feb-1 March
Landcare Muster and Forum, Wellington	9-10 March
Northern Rivers Landcare Awards, Grafton	1 April
NSW State Weeds Conference, Coffs Harbour	July

MISSING OUT ON THE COLOUR OR JUST WANT TO HELP SAVE RESOURCES?

You can access this newsletter in full colour on our website www.hastingslandcare.org.au. If you would prefer us to notify you by email when the newsletter is posted then let us know. We are striving to reduce the amount of paper we consume in this production and you can help! Thanks

LANDCARE COMMUNITY NURSERY

*A community nursery for
community re-vegetation projects*

The role of the nursery is to provide indigenous plants grown from local provenance. This not-for-profit nursery enables your project's funding to go further.

Address: NPWS Area Depot, end of Blackbutt Rd, Port Macquarie

Times: Monday morning 9am—12 noon
Other times by arrangement

Contact: Estelle Gough
6583 6508 / 0432 141605

The Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority support the production and distribution of this newsletter.

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