

NRM UPDATE



For NSW Local Government

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The Natural Resource Management (NRM) Update provides council elected representatives and staff with information across the broad spectrum of Natural Resource Management policy and programs.

LGNSW news

Excellence in the Environment Awards

Nominations have now closed for the [2015 Environment Awards](#). We look forward to **celebrating councils'** achievements in environmental management and sustainability at the Awards Presentation lunch and Forum on Tuesday 1 December at Dockside, Cockle Bay.

Local Government Case Study

Palerang Council Managing Roadside Vegetation

The Oallen Roadside Restoration project improved the ecological condition, extent and connectivity of native vegetation along the Oallen Road, Palerang. Oallen Road includes largely undisturbed forest connecting several national parks, however historical pine plantations in the area and heavy traffic between the coast and central NSW have introduced a range of weeds that threaten the corridor, endangered ecological community and threatened species. Check out the [video case study](#) available for this project.



Before and after photos of pine removal along Oallen Road.

NSW Government

Saving our Species Program – draft Threatened Species Management Projects

Under the Office of Environment and Heritage's [Saving our Species](#) program, 20 new Conservation Projects for *site-managed* threatened species (all flora) have recently been drafted. For each species a panel of relevant experts was convened at a workshop to define critical management sites and recovery actions required to meet the project objective of securing the species in NSW for 100 years (for more information on the project development process, see the [SoS Technical Report](#)).

All projects are based on the best available information at the time of development and can be continually updated via an adaptive framework. Comments are sought on the draft projects from councils given their expertise and/or experience related to the species or sites. Currently, management sites proposed in the 20 draft projects (for review) have been identified in the following 29 LGAs:

Ballina, Bellingen, Bombala, Byron, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Eurobodalla, Glen Innes Severn, Gloucester, Guyra, Harden, Hornsby, Inverell, Kempsey, Ku-Ring-Gai, Kyogle, Lismore, Lockhart, Mid-Western Regional, Palerang, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Richmond Valley, Ryde, Shoalhaven, Tenterfield, Tweed, Upper Hunter, Wagga Wagga and Walcha. These councils can review the draft projects for their LGA. Contact savingourspecies@environment.nsw.gov.au to request the relevant information.



Reintroduction of extinct mammals

The NSW Government has announced the next step towards reintroducing native animals to areas in NSW where they are extinct. The Australian Wildlife Conservancy and the Wildlife Restoration and Management Partnership led by University of New South Wales will begin discussions with the government on delivering the project to return more than 10 mammal species to our national parks. [Reintroduction of mammals](#) is a significant component of the *Saving our Species* program.



Hawkesbury Shelf marine bioregion assessment

The [Marine Estate Management Authority](#) is undertaking an assessment to develop options to enhance marine biodiversity conservation in the Hawkesbury Shelf marine bioregion. The assessment will be undertaken in accordance with the Government's new approach to the management of the marine estate to achieve balanced outcomes including opportunities for fishers, boaters and a range of other stakeholders. The project includes a [threat and risk assessment](#) on the environmental, social and economic values and benefits derived from the bioregion and involves community engagement. Input is [sought](#).

Australian Government

Review of Australia's Biodiversity Strategy

The Australian Government has announced a review of the first five years of [Australia's Biodiversity Conservation Strategy 2010 -2030](#). Input is sought on the review including general comments, implementation challenges and opportunities to improve the strategy. Comments sought by 11 September 2015.

Australia's Threatened Species Strategy

The [Threatened Species Strategy](#) is a plan to prioritise effort and work in partnership with the community and state and territory governments over the next five years. The Strategy sets out the Government's action plan to win the battle against extinction, commits \$6.6

million to threatened species projects to kick-start that plan.

Green Army information sessions

The Green Army is a six-month programme for 17-24 year olds to train and work in the environment. To coincide with the opening of Green Army Round Four, community information sessions on the Green Army Programme will be held in each state and territory during August 2015. More details available [here](#).

- 5 August 3-5pm Sydney
- 6 August 10am – 12pm Orange
- 27 August 11am – 1pm Coffs Harbour
- 28 August 11am – 1pm Albury



Biodiversity

Ticks and bandicoots

Recent article in Zoologist: [Are urban bandicoots solely to blame for tick concerns?](#)

Glyphosate concerns

The [World Health Organisation's International Agency for Research on Cancer \(IARC\)](#) recently announced that formulations containing glyphosate, including 'Roundup' and other similar products, were assessed as 'probably carcinogenic to humans'. Councils across NSW have received a fact sheet from StateCover which recommends that councils take a cautious approach and investigate their use of glyphosate. The process suggested involves councils undertaking a risk assessment of current weed control chemicals, and to consider a range of control measures to reduce risk and ensure best practice use.

Call for articles –'Ferals' issue of Australasian Plant Conservation (APC)

The next issue of APC will carry the theme of "Ferals", and contributions that focus on the interaction between feral animals and plant conservation are invited. Deadline for articles is 21 August. For more detail, see the [APC submission information](#).



Climate Change

Guiding principles for delivering coastal wetland carbon projects

Coastal “blue carbon” ecosystems including mangroves, tidal marshes and seagrass meadows are an important part of the global carbon cycle. This [UNEP publication](#) provides guidance for a range of interventions that lead to improved coastal wetlands conditions for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Biosecurity

A Senate Inquiry into the the adequacy of arrangements to prevent the entry and establishment of invasive species likely to harm Australia's natural environment has released a [final report](#). The inquiry called for a national priority list of pests and diseases of concern, more resources for reducing the impact of invasive species on the environment and measures to address invasive ornamental fish, marine biofouling and illegal internet seed sales.

Events and Training

[LGNSW Water Management Conference](#),

24 – 26 August, Peppers Craigieburn, Bowral.

[NSW Landcare Conference](#), 1-3 September, Orange.

[Bushcare's Major Day Out](#), 13 September 2015

[18th NSW Weeds Conference](#), 12 – 15 October, Cooma.

[NSW Coastal Conference](#), 10-13 November 2015, Forster NSW

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MORE INFORMATION

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