



EUROBODALLA CONSERVATION NEWSLETTER

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Coming Events

Broulee Art On The Path
8 – 12pm, Sunday 9th Jan (HT)

Mosquito Bay Bushcare
3-5pm, Sunday 6th Feb (PG)

Lantana Control Tilba
Sunday 13th Feb (DC & PM)

Indian Myna Evening
Thurs 24th Feb (DC & PM)

Coastal Volunteers Conference
Wollongong
27 Feb – 1 March (PG)

**Eurobodalla Landcare
Management Committee
(ELMC) Executive meeting
and Annual General Meeting**
Monday 9th May 10 – 4pm

ELMC Executive meetings
Monday 14th Feb 10 – 1.00
Monday 8th Aug 10 – 1.00
Monday 14th Nov 10 – 1.00

**For further information or to book
contact:-**

Peter Gow 4474 1329 PG
Heidi Thomson 4474 7442 HT
David Crass 4474 1201 DC
Paul Martin 4474 1269 PM

January / February 2011

ENVIRONMENT TEAM STAFF SHUFFLES

The Environment Team has recently undergone some staff changes. To update you on where everyone is:

Courtney Fink is off on maternity leave with her baby due in January. We wish Courtney and Glenn all the best with their new journey! Heidi Thomson will be undertaking Courtney's projects while she is on leave.

David Crass has accepted the position of Catchment Officer with the Southern Rivers CMA but will continue to work with the Environment Team as Environment Project Officer on Mondays. Tom Dexter will be starting in February to fill David's role.

Emma Patyus and Jo Lane will be returning in February as Environment Project Officers and will be in touch with Landcare groups regarding their new projects.



MERRY CHRISTMAS!



LANDCARE GRANT SUCCESS – 6 NEWLY FUNDED PROJECTS

1. Tending to the Grass Roots – Priority Landcare Works in the Eurobodalla 2010/2011

**Funding Source: Australian
Government Caring for our Country
Program via Southern Rivers
Catchment Management Authority and
South East Landcare**

The aim of this project is to increase involvement of the local community in Landcare and natural resource management with a focus on sustainable agriculture. Sustainable resource management skills of land managers will be enhanced. The project sites and project participants will serve as demonstrations for the wider community of how sustainable agriculture integrates with conservation at the farm level.

The project aims to initiate engagement of the local community in identifying and addressing local natural resource management issues associated particularly with impacts on water quality. Riparian protection works will include fencing, revegetation, provision of off-stream watering points. As a result of these works, impact from stock on erosion, native vegetation and effluent input will be reduced, direct sedimentation from erosion will be reduced (whether caused by stock or other impacts such as vegetation removal) and biodiversity and aesthetics will be enhanced.

Additionally, the project will address issues of pasture management and / or soil health to improve the sustainability of enterprises. A small amount of pest plant management will also be undertaken.
\$35,000 Ex GST

2. Northern Eurobodalla Communities Caring for Coastal Ecosystems

**Funding Source: Australian
Government Caring for our Country
Program**

This project will encourage community participation in works to reduce the threats to coastal biodiversity posed by encroachment of weeds, including WONS - Bridal Creeper, Bitou Bush, Blackberry and Lantana.

Landcare groups will be targeting coastal ecosystems, in particular priority sites and Endangered Ecological Communities, including the federally listed Littoral Rainforest EEC. Works will occur to protect the EEC's and their buffer zones from threat by environmental weeds.

Twelve landcare groups have indicated a willingness to participate in this project. The initial knockdown of the major weed infestations will enable local Landcare group members to maintain the affected areas

The project also includes NRM awareness raising activities to increase coastal community involvement including 6 Community Weed Swaps, 6 on-site Bushcare training days and the Tackling the Backyard Baddies Program (providing backyard weed audits and control advice to 80 individual landholders)
\$54,000 Ex GST



COMMUNITY ACTION GRANTS

Eurobodalla Landcare groups were successful with 4 applications to the Australian Government - Caring for our Country Community Action Grants

3. Mystery Bay Coastcare

The coastal biodiversity of southern Eurobodalla in Handkerchief Beach, Mystery Bay and Akolele is under threat from encroaching weeds, particularly weeds of national significance bridal creeper, bitou bush, blackberry and lantana. Mystery Bay Coastcare together with a Koori work team will target priority weeds and replant using appropriate native species. Bushcare training days will provide information on bush regeneration techniques to the wider community and will provide the opportunity for the Coastcare groups to work alongside experienced bush regenerators. The pedestrian access track to Wallago Lake foreshore will be repaired and resurfaced, with an Aboriginal sites officer in attendance.
\$20,000 ex GST

4. Long Beach Landcare

This project will assist four Eurobodalla coastal landcare groups, at South Durras, Long Beach and Surfside. These sites have suffered a loss of coastal biodiversity due to impact of introduced plant species, including garden escapees. A Koori work team will assist the four groups in weed control work. Support will be provided by bush regeneration teams and weed spraying contractors. Weeds of national significance and environmental weeds such as strangling vines will be targeted to reduce impact on threatened coastal ecosystems, including dunes, littoral rainforests and estuarine and freshwater wetlands. Bushcare training days in regeneration/rehabilitation techniques and opportunities for working with practising Landcarers will be provided. A weed swap and display day at Surfside will help the wider community to identify

potential threats to the natural environment. The four Landcare groups will maintain the rehabilitated areas with on-going monitoring and weeding.
\$20,000 ex GST

5. Rosedale Landcare

This project will control invasive plants, including weeds of national significance and revegetate areas of coastal dune and bushland habitat at three closely located sites on the New South Wales South Coast - Rosedale, Burrawang and Broulee. Bushcare and Dunecare trainers will first work alongside Koori work teams and volunteer community members at each work location to teach plant recognition and weeding techniques through publicly advertised training days. Newly trained volunteers will then undertake weeding and revegetation. Where appropriate, contracted bush regenerators and sprayers will be used. Revegetation will be achieved through the planting and maintenance of vulnerable bare areas during autumn and spring using locally indigenous species, complementing previous revegetation activities.
\$20,000 ex GST

6. Lilli Pilli / Malua Bay Landcare

The project will target weeds of national significance and other environmental weeds, including bridal creeper, blackberry, bitou bush and lantana, cape ivy, honeysuckle, morning glory, mile a minute and asparagus fern. The spread of these has altered the character of local bushland at Lilli Pilli, Malua Bay, Surf Beach and Denhams Beach. Bush regenerators and weed control contractors will undertake weed control activities over a minimum of four hectares, in conjunction with Landcare and Coastcare groups, a project officer and a Koori youth work team. Replanting with endemic native species and natural regeneration will follow weed removal. Bushcare training sessions will educate the Landcare and Coastcare groups as

well as the wider community. New volunteers will be recruited to assist Landcare and Coastcare projects, which are currently unable to control invasive weeds adequately without assistance. The project will improve community awareness of natural resource management.
\$20,000 ex GST

SEA SPURGE PROJECT IS AN AWARD WINNER

Local Government Excellence in the Environment Awards 2009 - 2010

Recognising outstanding achievements by Local Government in managing and protecting the environment

Commended Division C

Southern Councils Group: South Coast Communities Sea Spurge Control Project

The South Coast Communities Sea Spurge Control Project is a region-wide effort to remove sea spurge from all beaches on the NSW South Coast, and significantly reduce other beach weeds. Sea Spurge (*Euphorbia paralias*) is a highly invasive weed which is changing the shape of beaches on the south coast of NSW. It has invaded breeding habitat for threatened shorebird species, prevented natural sand movement, formed dune monocultures, displaced endangered beach vegetation, invaded coastal Endangered Ecological Communities and reduced the amenity and use of beaches. It thrives on our beaches and has no predators.

The project has removed Sea Spurge from the beaches in four Local Government Areas (LGAs): Bega Valley Shire, Eurobodalla Shire, Kiama Municipal and Shoalhaven City, and from the NSW and Federal National Parks and territories. It has involved local Indigenous communities, coastal volunteer groups, local, State and

Federal Government agencies working cooperatively. Control measures have been implemented to address existing infestations, as well as any new infestations.

The project is funded under the Australian Government's "Caring for Our Country" initiative.

In Eurobodalla Shire it was Paul May from South Durras Dunecare who first brought his concerns to the attention of Landcare groups. Paul was instrumental in working with Peter Gow and Greg Thomson from Shoalhaven City Council in organizing the first meeting to bring together the various agencies from Local, State and Federal Government as well as the Southern Rivers Catchment Management Authority.

Jo Lane coordinated the project works in Eurobodalla Shire.

DENHAMS BEACH BUSHCARE TRAINING



On the 3rd of November Peter Gow provided Bushcare training for Denhams Beach Residents and the new Eurobodalla National Jobs Corps Team at Denhams Beach.

At Denhams Beach the new Eurobodalla National Jobs Corps Team worked for two days removing a range of Garden Escape plants along the headland and behind the beach. Loads of African Daisy, Agapanthus, and Montbretia were cleared out of the coastal reserves.

AKOLELE COASTCARE WORKDAY



Akolele Coastcare group on their 5th of November workday with Bush Regenerators from Brighter Day Landscapes.

As part of the Southern Communities project funded by Southern Rivers Catchment Management Authority the Coastal Landcare groups can work with experienced bush regenerators to benefit from on-site training. From the range of native vegetation present it may be possible that this area could be classified as Littoral Rainforest.

POTATO POINT PLANT SWAP

1-4pm Sunday 28th November



Geoff Radcliffe, Sue Barford, Declan Radcliffe, and Rachel McInnes at the Plant Swap.

Potato Point residents almost filled Council's large green trailer with environmental weeds removed from their gardens on a rainy Sunday afternoon.

EUROBODALLA SLOW FOODS CELEBRATION

SUMMARY OF EVENTS

Film in the Marquee
Friday 19th November

Slow Foods Celebration
Saturday 20th Nov at Moruya Markets site
Speakers and stalls drew in around 5000 people to this event. Courtney Fink and Paul Martin held a Plant Swap on the day.

SAGE Community Gardens Open Day,
Sunday 21st Nov at the SAGE
Community Garden site, eastern end of
Queen St, Moruya

Around 1000 people were entertained and educated by demonstrations and stalls.

For more photos from the Community Gardens Open Day follow to link to Stuart Whitelaw's images [sage open day 2010](#)



SAGE Community Gardens site in 2008

Before Photo – An excavator almost disappears in the weeds at the site prior to clearing.



After Photo - SAGE Community Gardens Open Day 2010



Local Youth were drawn to the SAGE Community Gardens event by engaging local bands

EUROBODALLA LANDCARE CHRISTMAS TOUR REPORT

Maureen Baker took the group to One Tree Point and explained about the changes to the shape of Main Beach caused by storms, large waves and the movement of the Tuross River mouth.

Courtney Fink informed participants about the Estuary Project sites along Coila Lake foreshore and the native grasses trial currently underway. An area of Kikuyu turf has been sprayed out and assorted native grass seed has been spread at the site. The aim of this trial is

to look for alternatives to the invasive Kikuyu grass.



Representatives from 10 Eurobodalla Landcare groups joined together for an eventful day on the Annual Landcare Christmas Bus tour. Along with Councillors Lindsay Brown, Graham Scobie, and Chris Kowal they braved the rain to view Landcare project sites at Tuross Head and Potato Point.

Maureen then filled participants in on the wonderful natural features of the Chatham Park Littoral Rainforest. By this time the rain had made the site too slippery for a walk but all were invited back to check out the features on another day.

Following lunch we drove over to Potato Point where Peter Gow demonstrated how to mark out a Photo Point for monitoring the changes in weeds and native vegetation over time.



Setting up a Photo Point monitoring site at Jemisons Beach prior to the spraying of a large Creeping Groundsel infestation

Rachel McInnes from the newly formed Potato Point Coastcare group then informed people of the group's recent activities.

To conclude we visited the Kyla Park project site where the Tuross group has planted over 8300 native plants and stabilised eroding gullies.

THE ATLAS OF LIVING AUSTRALIA

The Atlas of Living Australia website has gone live to the public today and announced via a media release from the Honourable Senator Kim Carr, Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research titled "Opening our Eyes to Australia's Natural Heritage". Have a look at the website at <http://www.ala.org.au>

While the site is still a work in progress, it already provides access to a variety of information about Australian biodiversity - animals, plants, fungi and microorganisms, including:

- species pages
- species names list
- ID information
- more than 23 million occurrence and distribution records
- information on key Australian biological collections
- mapping tools
- citizen science tools.

Through the Atlas, users can discover information on species in a particular area, in their neighborhood or around their school.

Over the next eighteen months, the Atlas will continue to grow through the integration of more information on Australian biodiversity as well as the development of additional services and tools such as a Sensitive Data Service.

Please send your feedback about the Atlas of Living Australia website to Lynne

Sealie, Communications Manager, 02 6246 5901, lynne.sealie@csiro.au

MARINE PARK THEME FOR NORTH BROULEE TOILET BLOCK FACE LIFT!

The women surfers in the Broulee Boardriders hold their monthly surf meet in front of this toilet block and recently decided to apply for a grant to transform this eyesore into something beautiful.

The community art project is now underway with the marine inspired mosaic panels coming together.

As well as creating a marine theme in keeping with local sea creatures, the Boardriders are keen to use as many recycled materials as possible. To assist them, Council's Waste Minimisation Officer, Belinda Wagner, has supplied them with a letter to obtain as many old tiles as they need from Council's Tip Shop.



Stacey Wade & Bernadette Davis from the Boardriders assisting community members with one of the mosaic panels at the December Art on the Path in Broulee.

ART ON THE PATH AT BROULEE

A chance to showcase local artists and environmental sustainable practices.

Where: Broulee Beach bike path (Just north of the Broulee supermarket)

When: Sunday 9th January 2011

Set up time for stallholders is 7.30am

Event starts at 8.00am and runs till Noon

Contact Marie Zuvich on 44715465