

GLENRAC NEWSletter



Glen Innes Natural Resources Advisory Committee

Our vision is to create solutions for a sustainable and productive landscape.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

- GLENRAC project activity updates
- Confident Commitees
- Upcoming Events and Courses
- Little Llangothlin Nature Reserve Field Day

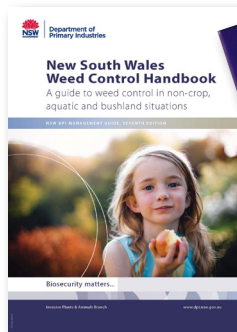
WE'VE RE-VAMPED OUR FOYER

Over the break we rearranged the GLENRAC office foyer and would love for you to visit and take a look!



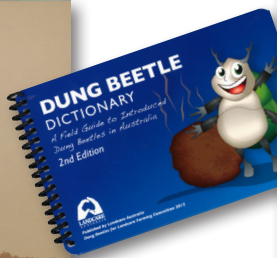
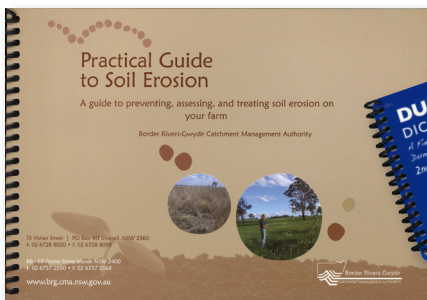
Whilst you're here, you might like to grab a copy of some of our useful printed resources, including:

- NSW Weed Control Handbook (DPI) - A guide to weed control in non-crop, aquatic and bushland situations.
- Weed Management guide booklet (NT & NW LLS)
- Serrated Tussock pamphlet
- ...and many others!



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MORE USEFUL RESOURCES



GLENRAC MATTERS

Welcome to the first GLENRAC newsletter for 2022!

The past few months have certainly offered a variety of conditions for landholders. Our committee and staff are continuing to work hard to attract funding and bring new projects and opportunities to our community.

Upcoming events include a very special RAMSAR Wetland Walk, more nestbox building workshops, community group up-skilling, our famous Smoko events and much more. Stay tuned!

The GLENRAC team - Kylie, Jennie, Mahri, Kelly, Jennene, Christine, Karen and Tina

JOIN US SATURDAY 26TH FEBRUARY FOR OUR PARTNERSHIP FIELD DAY AT LITTLE LLANGOTHLIN NATURE RESERVE - RAMSAR SITE.

Commencing 9.30 am at the visitor area, be welcomed to country by Banbai Rangers, hear about the research completed by botanists and ecologists and the history of the RAMSAR site and enjoy a walk with National Parks and Wildlife Service Ranger. GLENRAC will provide a free morning tea for all. This project is funded by Northern Tablelands Local Land Services and the Australian Government.

Call **GLENRAC** on **6732 3443** to register for the day.

Bring a camp chair, hat, walking shoes, and drinking water.



LISTEN, WATCH, READ!

LISTEN

Running a Thriving Business in Agriculture (DPI)

Recorded at the Young Farmer Business Program Conference (Dubbo, May 2021) this podcast

showcases young farmers who didn't inherit a farm yet made the successful journey to land ownership anyway. Internationally-recognised agricultural business experts present on how to:

- simplify the complexity of running a farm business
- innovatively apply key principles of the start-up business model to beef production
- translate years of experience into some really actionable advice.

<http://bit.ly/BusinessOfFarming-YFBP>

Seeds for Success (LLS)

A place where you will hear a good yarn about ag life with producers who are having a go. On the show, you'll hear from farmers in New South Wales who are out there battling the elements, making tough calls and getting the job done. You'll get a laugh out of some of their stories, and also pick up some know-how along the way.

<http://bit.ly/LLSSeedsForSuccess>

WATCH

Beneath The Dung Hill (LLS)

The magic of the dung beetle is revealed. Follow links to expert John Feehan's website to see a video of the humble, hardworking beetle at

work. This 'silent partner' complements land management practices by storing carbon, aerating the soil, deepening topsoil, providing habitat for earthworms, reducing bushfly populations, reducing internal parasite loads and much more! Without these little critters, huge amounts of cattle and other livestock dung builds up on the soil surface, fouling up pastures, reducing good grazing areas and ultimately, ending up in waterways contributing to nutrient loadings and posing algal risks.

<http://bit.ly/RiverinaLLS-BeneathTheDungHill>

(With kind permission from Riverina Local Land Services)



READ

Ag-Tech: an introduction (DPI)

This practical guide will soon be available for loan from the Glen Innes Severn Library Learning Centre.

It provides insights and advice so producers can understand the technologies available for on-farm AgTech, including steps to follow in planning your needs and setting out your priorities. You can also purchase a hardcopy or e-book from tocal.nsw.edu.au/publications



HAVE YOU SEEN OUR WEED MANAGEMENT TRAVELLING DISPLAY THAT IS POPPING UP AT LOCAL PRODUCE STORES AROUND THE REGION?



PROJECT NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

CREATING CONFIDENT AND CAPABLE COMMITTEES

A new project **Creating Confident and Capable Committees for the Future** will build the capacity of committee members and volunteers of local not-for-profit organisations. The project aims to strengthen the sustainability and effectiveness of local groups, helping them meet the needs of their community. Through engagement with an online platform, attending a series of events, one-on-one support sessions and governance health checks, community groups can



increase their ability to successfully deliver projects and attain their organisation's aims and objectives. Watch this space for more information as the project develops!

SHOUT OUT TO REGIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK

GLENRAC would like to acknowledge the ongoing support of the Regional Australia Bank Community Partnerships Program. Each year GLENRAC is fortunate to receive a cash donation from this valuable program.

You can support GLENRAC financially - at **zero** cost to you - by participating in this program. Simply nominate GLENRAC Inc. as your community group on eligible Regional Australia Bank accounts and then go about your banking.

The bank calculates your average annual balance and donates the equivalent of 0.75% to your chosen group for the period 1/7/2021 to 30/7/2022.



HAVE YOU SEEN THE REGENT HONEYEATER?

GLENRAC is in Year 4 of a five year project partnership with Local Land Services and the Australian Government to raise awareness of this critically endangered species that can still occasionally be seen on the Northern Tablelands.

Landcare Networks across the region will be working together to provide our communities with a series of field days during the last week of April this year, where key scientists will give us information about the Honeyeater and its lifestyle. Keep an eye on GLENRAC's media and website for details and register to come along to an interesting field day!

How to I.D. a Regent Honeyeater. Most of us are familiar with our native Noisy Miner that measures

around 27cm from the tip of its beak to the tip of its tail.

The Regent Honeyeater is a little smaller at 24cm and slightly larger than the common introduced Starling and our native White-cheeked Honeyeater.

The most vivid aspect of the species is the brilliant splashes of yellow on its tail, with stripes of yellow also across the wings. Plumage around the head and neck is black, with a broad patch of bare, warty skin around the eyes. GLENRAC office has information available about the Regent Honeyeater, its lifestyle and key identification features compiled by Birdlife Australia.

See the excellent website birdlife.org.au



PROJECT NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

MORE NESTBOX BUILDING WORKSHOPS FOR 2022

Following the success of GLENRAC's nestbox building workshops in 2021, we are currently scheduling more workshops for early 2022. If you'd like to come along to any of these, contact **GLENRAC** on **02 6732 3443** or keep an eye on our events listing at glenrac.org.au/events.



INCREASE IN REPORTS OF SUMMER LIVESTOCK HEALTH ISSUES

Local Land Services District Vets and Livestock Officers are fielding an increasing number of enquiries about ill-thrift in weaner sheep, drench resistance, three-day sickness in cattle and buffalo fly.

ILL THRIFT IN WEANER SHEEP

Factors behind the spate of ill health and increased mortalities include nutrition (sheep battling long grass or overgrazing small areas of short feed in large paddocks may not be able to access adequate nutrients), worms, liver fluke, *Mycoplasma ovis* (a blood parasite of sheep that causes anaemia), pink eye induced blindness, pneumonia, scouring and breech strike.

Producers should aim to keep weaner weights up around 23kgs. Lighter lambs will have lower muscle and fat reserves and are more likely to struggle to fight off common health problems.

DRENCH RESISTANCE

You will know if there is drench resistance in your flock if you see signs of wormy sheep within a few weeks of drenching. An effective drench kills all worms and provides at least 4 weeks protection. Anything less means worms survived the drench and are continuing to affect your sheep.

To determine if your drench is working, a simple worm test 10 to 14 days after drenching, will confirm whether adult worms survived the drench. If there are worm eggs, you need to closely monitor the sheep you drenched and select an alternative drench for future use.

If you know worms have built up resistance to drenches on your property, they do not revert to being effective over time. Some of the newer drenches eg. Zolvix™ and Startect™ currently have very little reported resistance. Combination drenches may be effective depending on your individual property resistance profile.



(Andrew Biddle, District Vet,
Northern Tablelands Local Land Services)

THREE-DAY SICKNESS

Once bitten by insects that carry the virus, symptoms of three-day sickness progress rapidly. Animals develop a very high temperature, appear depressed, lethargic and are reluctant to eat. They will often appear lame and stiff when they walk and a nasal discharge is also common.

Once recumbent, larger animals such as bulls, bullocks and pregnant cows will critically deteriorate as nerves and blood flow to the legs can be impacted and animals have difficulty regaining their feet. If left untreated, these animals may die. Recumbent animals are also at risk of pneumonia.

Treatment of animals is important so intervene early and aggressively.

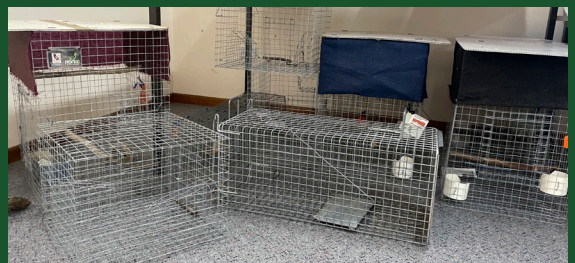
BUFFALO FLY

The buffalo fly is a small biting fly, about 4mm long that feeds off cattle and buffalo and causes irritation that can result in significant weight loss and a decline in milk production. Many infested cattle also develop sores in the inner corners of their eyes.

Cattle that are particularly sensitive to fly bites may scratch and rub themselves constantly. Bulls and dark-coated cattle, especially black cattle, appear to be the most prone to severe infestation.

Farmers should report buffalo fly sightings so we can get a better idea of their current spread. Good management strategies can reduce the impact of the disease and other health problems and the financial benefits are worth the effort.

DID YOU KNOW WE ALSO HAVE FERAL CAT AND INDIAN MYNA TRAPS?



There is no loan fee, but since we only have a few of each trap, each loan is subject to availability at the time.

INFORMATION, OPPORTUNITIES AND FUNDING

Special Disaster Assistance Following Severe Weather and Flooding (from 9 November 2021)

The NSW and Australian Governments have announced additional assistance measures to support primary producers who have been impacted by the floods and severe weather that occurred during November and December 2021.

Assistance is now being provided to 48 local government areas in NSW through the jointly funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

Primary producers recovering from the devastating impacts of floods are receiving vital support, with Special Disaster Grants of up to \$50,000 now available.

Flood affected primary producers are encouraged to apply for Special Disaster Grants to access financial assistance to get back operating as soon as possible.

Once approved, eligible primary producers can access \$10,000 in assistance up-front, with a further \$40,000 in financial assistance available thereafter upon submission of valid tax invoices.

Call **GLENRAC 06 6732 3433** for more information.

FREE Online course 'Manage drought like a boss and set yourself up for ecological, financial and productive wins'.

Thousands of farmers have greatly reduced the crippling impacts of drought by adopting RCS principles taking them into drought later and out of drought sooner.

Now, with the support of the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund, RCS has created a free online course to share that knowledge with Australia's farmers and graziers.

Everyone who completes the course will come away with a meaningful and practical plan to prepare for a drought, manage in a drought and recover from a drought.

Enrol at <http://bit.ly/RCS-DroughtPreparedness>



LOOK OUT FOR THIS NEW HANDY WEEDS POCKET BOOK!



GLENRAC will soon take delivery of **Priority Weeds of Glen Innes Severn** booklet and will have free copies available at the GLENRAC Office. New England Weeds Authority staff will be attending upcoming events such as **GLENRAC Smokos** and the Glen Innes

Show. The booklets have clear photographs and provide information about identification of a number of priority weeds found across the district that landholders should be on the lookout

for, including Chilean Needle Grass, Blue Heliotrope and Fireweed.

The information in this booklet was compiled by GLENRAC and New England Weeds Authority with the support of Glen Innes Severn Council in 2021. Production of this booklet was made possible through funding from the Australian Government's Communities Combating Pest & Weed Impacts During Drought Program - Biosecurity Management of Pests & Weeds (Round 2), with the support of Northern Tablelands Local Land Services through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.

If you would like a copy of the booklet please contact the **GLENRAC** team on **02 67323443** or email glenrac@glenrac.org.au

GLENRAC OPERATING COMMITTEE 2021/22

CHAIRMAN - Ian Lockwood

VICE CHAIR - Julie Firth TREASURER - Sam Baker SECRETARY - Tony Corcoran

LANDHOLDER & DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES:

Rob Banham, John Bavea, Andrew Campbell, Sandy Fitzgerald, Barb Holliss,

Jane Munro, Mike Norton, Ian Vivers

GLEN INNES SEVERN COUNCIL: to be advised

PUBLIC OFFICER: Col Price

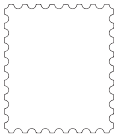
For all questions relating to GLENRAC please contact our staff at

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Phone: 02 6732 3443 Mobile: 0427 325 901 Email: glenrac@glenrac.org.au

www.glenrac.org.au

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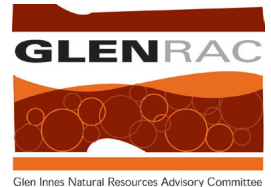
To The Land Manager

This activity is part of the Local Landcare Coordinators initiative



**Local Land
Services**

The Local Landcare
Coordinators initiative
is funded by the NSW
Government and is supported
through the partnership at
Local Land Services and
Landcare NSW



COMING EVENTS

28 January
to 30 June

FREE Governance
Health Check

23 February

Little Llangothlin
Nature Reserve
RAMSAR Wetland Walk

23 February

Community Outreach Event
@ Deepwater Hall

11 to 12 March

Landcare Adventure
@ Tenterfield

February to April

Nest Box Building Workshops

To register or see our full range of events visit www.glenrac.org.au/events