

GLENRAC

Newsletter

Sept / Oct 2012

Where to find us - National Park & Wildlife
Services Building, 68 Church St
Office Hours— Mon to Fri 9am to 5pm

Inside This Issue

- New funding for GLENRAC
- Fireweed Control Options
- Project Snapshot
- Severn River project update
- Funding Opportunities
- Coming Events



GLENRAC AGM
19th September 2012

Glen Innes Services Club 7:00pm

Join us to hear about GLENRAC's
achievements over the past 12-
months.

Come along and meet the committee
members & staff.

Pasture to Pocket training funded for young farmers

Are you a landowner or manager? Do you run stock on your property? Would you like to improve animal performance, maximise farm profitability and protect the natural resources of your property? Like to run your own farm in the future?

GLENRAC & Glen East Landcare group have secured funding to host a "Pasture to Pocket" workshop for young farmers in Glen Innes from Tuesday 23rd October to Thursday, 25 October 2012. Who is a young farmer? Anyone who is young at heart can attend but we would encourage people interested in agriculture under 45 years to attend!

The workshop will investigate the most up-to-date grazing principles landholders can apply to improve animal performance and maximising farm profitability while looking after the natural environment.

Subjects covered in the workshop include the benefits and drawbacks of a range of grazing systems, principles of sustainable grazing, property development and planning, and animal supplementation strategies.

The workshop is delivered by Resource Consulting Services and is available at the heavily discounted price of \$100 per person (normally \$1,000). It involves a mix of "in room" theory discussions as well as a field trip focusing on applying the principles and tools discussed.

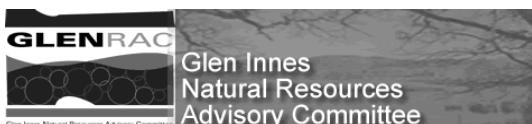
GLENRAC will also host four follow-up events for participants of the Pasture to Pocket course to cover topics raised through the course and will be a mix of workshops and field trips.

Numbers are limited so register early to secure your place. Payment is required to secure your registration. To register, contact GLENRAC 6732 3443 or office@glenrac.org.au by the 19th October.

This Workshop is supported by the Australian Government's Caring for our Country Community Action Grants program.



Glen East
Landcare



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY



Glenrac News

Hello All,

Welcome to the Sept/October newsletter! We hope you enjoy reading about the current and coming activities GLENRAC is involved with. We have yet to set final dates for other events to be held prior to Christmas and will include a field day on Coolatai grass management and a dung beetle field day with Bernard Doube.

GLENRAC will host it's AGM on the 19th September at 7:00pm at the Glen Innes Services Club. I would encourage anyone who is interested in what GLENRAC does in the community to attend. This year our guest speaker is John Williams, John is the Chairman on the Northern Rivers CMA. John will be talking about the CMA & Landcare working in partnership to deliver natural resource managements solutions for land managers. An overview of GLENRAC's performance for the 2011/12 financial year in relation to our Strategic Plan 2010-2012 goals will also be presented at the meeting.

Congratulations to Greg & Sally Chappell of Shannonvale Station who have been selected as case study site under the Soils for Life program. This program is currently investigating the best possible interventions for the regeneration and sustainable management of Australia's land and waterways.

GLENRAC has been represented by Eric Sinclair, Mike Norton and Lucy Faithfull at the National Landcare Conference in Sydney in the first week of September. We'll have an update of the key outcomes from the conference in the next newsletter for your interest.

Regards, Kylie Falconer



Bright Ideas

Future Farmers Network

The Future Farmers Network (FFN) engages young people involved in agriculture and provides networking opportunities, monthly email updates and newsletters, face to face events such as Young Beef Producers Forums. Membership is open to all those who consider themselves young at heart and costs \$44 per annum for individual membership. For more information visit www.futurefarmers.com.au for more information and membership forms.

Free App—Weeds : The Ute Guide

GRDC'S free Weed ICD app is a useful tool to identify weeds while in the paddock. It works even when there is no mobile phone coverage. The app features photographs of weeds at various stages of growth and a calendar indicating likely growing times.

The app is available on Android, iPhone and iPad. Go to the app store and type "GRDC" in your search bar to download. Prefer a hard copy? This guide is still available as a small hand book for \$27.50 + P&H from the NSW DPI bookshop.

Free—Winning Against Seeds

This booklet is available from Meat & Livestock Australia. It provides producers with a wide range of information about managing seed contamination in lamb and wool production. It takes an in depth look into the "seed problem", from identifying seeds on the property, through to control options and integration into the farm management program. 46 pages. Contact 1800 675 717 to order a copy.

New Funding for GLENRAC!



The 2012-13 Community Action Grants funding have been announced recently and included \$1,776,120 for 106 projects in New South Wales. GLENRAC has been successful in securing funding for three projects totaling \$55,200. These projects are to map revegetation planting in the Glen Innes district \$19,500, Pasture to Pocket training for young farmers \$16,300 and Community action to protect a regionally significant wildlife corridor Year 2 (Rummerys Hill Landcare) \$19,400.

If you would like more information on these projects please contact GLENRAC on 02 6732 3443 or Project Officer Lucy Faithfull by email - office@glenrac.org.au

Mapping Revegetation Plantings

Expressions of Interest are now being called for landholders interested in having GLENRAC map native trees & shrubs planted on properties across the Glen Innes district. Mapping will be conducted by GLENRAC staff and we will be able to generate a free property map, either printed or electronic copy, with your tree planting areas identified for your future property planning.

This information will be used by GLENRAC to develop future funding applications for revegetation and related activities for properties in the Glen Innes district.

To participate in this project contact the GLENRAC office on 02 6732 3443 or email tanya@glenrac.org.au



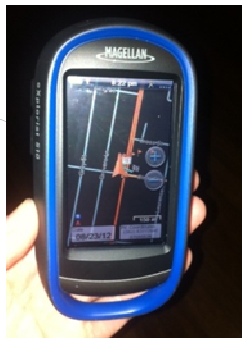
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GLENRAC Project Snapshot

GLENRAC Mapping Update

GLENRAC hosted its first GPS workshop in Inverell on 3rd August for Landcare staff. The course had a brief theory component, followed by practical exercises in how to mark your location as a waypoint, how to 'GO TO' a waypoint, how to track your route and how to calculate an area by walking around the perimeter or from known waypoints. The training also covered how to download your data from the GPS using Vantage Point software. GLENRAC plans to hold more of these workshops. If you are interested in learning how these handy little gadgets work, then contact Tanya at GLENRAC on 6732 3443 or tanya@glenrac.org.au

GLENRAC has purchased four Magellan eXplorist GPS units which are proving popular. Once set up, they are a practical and fairly simple unit to use. These units have an inbuilt camera which is perfect for capturing an image of a tree planting or any other natural resource monitoring application. These units will be available for loan for landholders who have completed the GLENRAC training workshop.



Learn how to use a GPS unit

GLENRAC will be offering free "How to Use a GPS" workshops over the next 12-months. GLENRAC has GPS units available for loan for landholders who have completed this training workshop.

Using a GPS unit is a handy way to map a range of activities on farm including-

- P Fence line distances
- P Measuring paddock size
- P Mapping where weeds are on your property
- P Mapping where you spray weeds this year to go back and check on regrowth in subsequent years
- P Map soil sampling sites
- P Map water pipes and connections in water systems

To register your interest in learning how to use a GPS unit contact GLENRAC on 02 6732 3443 or email tanya@glenrac.org.au

Border Rivers Gwydir CMA Sustainable Farming Grants



On the 20th September, GLENRAC will be hosting a "Healthy Soils" workshop. The workshop is aimed at landholders in the region with an interest in improving soil health on their properties. The workshop will be delivered by well known training organisation Resource Consulting Services and will expand understanding of the linkages between healthy soils, healthy animals, healthy people and an ongoing healthy profit.

The Healthy Soils Workshop content will also include the Principles of Sustainable Grazing, how plants operate and the Ecological Management Model. The knowledge gained in this workshop will empower participants to increase the overall health, productivity and value of their land.

This workshop is supported by the Border Rivers-Gwydir Catchment Management Authority's Sustainable Agriculture Grants program, through the Australian Government's Caring for Our Country program.

The workshop will cost \$20 per person and numbers are limited. If you are interested in attending this workshop visit the GLENRAC website for further information, www.glenrac.org.au or contact GLENRAC on 02 6732 3443.

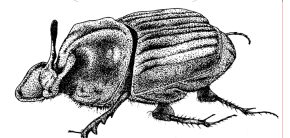
Dung Beetle Project Update

GLENRAC will host a dung beetle field day in the week commencing the 29th October 2012 with Dr. Bernard Doube returning from South Australia for a second visit to the Northern Tablelands.

Bernard was the guest speaker at last year's dung beetle field days and his informative and entertaining delivery shouldn't be missed! More information will be available on the GLENRAC website and in the local newspaper once details are finalised.

Interested in finding out more about dung beetles? Look up www.dungbeetles.org.au to find a range of information (great for school projects!) including -

- ⇒ Facts about dung beetle biology;
- ⇒ How to monitor your dung beetle population;
- ⇒ Find out what are the eight common species of dung beetles;
- ⇒ Link to the CSIRO dung beetle project website.



Control options for fireweed

Submitted by David Nixon, Glen Innes Severn Council
Weeds Officer

Pasture management

For successful fireweed control in the long term, it is essential to maintain a vigorous perennial pasture, using fertiliser applications on existing improved or native pastures and matching grazing pressure to pasture growth to maintain a dense pasture.

Chemical control in pastures

Herbicides are a safe and effective method of control as part of an integrated fireweed management plan. Use of herbicides does not stop the need to maintain or establish a competitive pasture.

There is a range of herbicides registered for fireweed control. Bromoxynil herbicides cause less damage to pasture legumes but are only effective against fireweed seedlings and immature plants.

Herbicides that cause more damage to pasture legumes have a longer application window and can be applied in spring if necessary. These herbicides include Grazon® Extra and metsulfuron-methyl.

Cultivation

A large proportion of areas infested by fireweed are non-arable due to slope or soil type. For arable areas, cultivation followed by a cropping program with a forage cereal such as oats can be effective as part of a pasture improvement program. Cultivation in March and April can stimulate a large proportion of the seedbank to germinate. These seedlings can then be controlled with a knockdown herbicide or further cultivation before sowing the forage crop. (Avoid over-cultivation, which increases the risk of erosion.) Consult an agronomist for further advice before using this method to control fireweed.

Slashing/mulching

Repeated cutting, typically at less than six week intervals, can reduce, but not eliminate, fireweed production and seeding. However, while it controls fireweed, this technique is also damaging to the pasture, and should only be considered where the pasture will rapidly recover and outcompete any seedlings.

For more information on weeds identification and control methods contact David Nixon, Weeds Officer at Glen Innes Severn Council on 02 6730 2358.



Severn River River Health Project

An update from Project Officer, Anya Salmon

The next time you cross the Severn River take a look upstream or downstream and perhaps you will appreciate that landholders along the Severn, from Dundee in the east to Ashford in the north-west have been undertaking activities over the past few months that will see improvements to soil and land management practices on their properties contributing to improved water quality in the Severn River. Funding has been made available under the Commonwealth Government's Caring For Our Country Investment Project that has seen riparian zones being fenced thereby reducing continuous stock access to the river and reducing the impact upon the river bank, with the funding then contributing to providing off stream watering points.

Other landholders have engaged in fencing to match land capability projects in order to improve rotational grazing practices and increase the sustainability of their properties by improving ground cover management practices as well as leading to an increase in biodiversity. Honey Locust with all its prickles and problems has emerged as a weed to watch along the Severn, and many landholders have chosen to use their funding to attack this issue and try to eradicate it from their river banks and paddocks.

Please contact GLENRAC on (02) 6732 3443 if you have any suggestions for future funding projects.

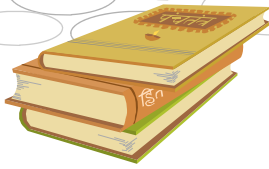


Looking for Honey Locust on the Severn River

GLENRAC has secured funding for the control of honey locust along the Severn and Mann River's over the next two years. We have good information on the population of honey locust along the Mann River system and we are now seeking information on the level of infestation on the Severn River system.

If you have property along the Severn River we are interested in hearing from you! We need to identify the furthest upstream honey locust plants to start planning a control program for the coming summer months.

If you have honey locust or know where honey locust plants are growing on adjoining public lands could you please contact GLENRAC on 02 6732 3443 or our Project Officer Tanya Weir by email tanya@glenrac.org.au



Book Review

GLENRAC has recently donated the following three books to the Glen Innes Severn library as part of our Caring for Our Country project "Increasing native habitat and connectivity across the Glen Innes district".

From Seeds to Leaves (2008) Doug & Robin Stewart A complete guide to growing Australian trees and shrubs from seed. Provides information on extracting, storing & germinating seeds in the right way & in season, including using smoke to germinate seed, how to plant out, water, mulch, protect, fertilise and prune plants for best results. 166 pages.

Growing Australian Native Plants from Seed (2009) Murray Ralph Comprehensive guide on growing native plants from seed for revegetation, tree planting or direct seeding. Specific details are provided on propagating over 1,000 native plant genera and thousands of individual species. 156 pages.

Small Native Plants for Australian Gardens (2009) Nola Parry & Jocelyn Jones Provides an A-Z of small native plants for Australian gardens, including use, combinations, care, flowering and selection guides. Each page describes a different plant with colour photos with over 200 described. 272 pages.

Like to have your say on pest animals?

The Pest Animal Management & Landholder Engagement in New England NSW project continues to roll out as introduced in the last GLENRAC newsletter.



As a key part of the project a survey has been developed to assess landholder concerns regarding pest animals. The responses received from the survey will assist Landcare and other organisations to gain a snap shot of pest animal concerns and current management across the region. Your responses will help direct field day topics and funding applications into the future.

Survey responses will be treated confidentially and will contribute to an improvement in pest animal management across our region.

The survey takes about 5 minutes to complete. To access a copy of the survey pick up a printed copy at the GLENRAC office or go to the GLENRAC website or type in the following address to your internet browser bar <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KJGP6G5>

New Chair for BRG-CMA

Hans Hietbrink (pictured) is the new Chair of the Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA Board. As the Mayor of Guyra Shire Council Hans will bring experience in governance, planning and leadership to the role of Chair. He is looking forward to meeting current and future clients in our catchment communities.



New Local Book! - Sticks & Stones

The Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA have recently launched a new book titled *Sticks & Stones*. This much anticipated book is a valuable guide to stone artefacts, wooden tools, weapons and implements used and traded by the Aboriginal people in the Border Rivers and Gwydir catchments.

'Sticks and Stones' has been written and compiled by local archaeologist Tony Sonter and Harry White, Catchment Officer - Aboriginal Support with the Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA. Tony's extensive archaeological experience working with Aboriginal cultural sites over a vast area of NSW and interstate has been the ideal complement to Harry's rich knowledge of Aboriginal traditions and culture.

The book explains the current legislation regarding Aboriginal artefacts, and provides practical information to landholders about the steps to take when items of Aboriginal heritage are identified on a property.

"We want to encourage a greater awareness of the significance of Aboriginal cultural heritage," said Harry White. "We also want to explain practical ways to protect cultural artefacts through working with local Aboriginal Land Councils.

GLENRAC has donated a copy of this book and the CD to the Glen Innes Severn library. We also have free copies of book in both book and CD format available. These only from the GLENRAC office by collection. We also now have free CD copies of the 2011 publication 'Bush Tucker, Boomerangs & Bandages', which documents traditional Aboriginal plant use in the Border Rivers and Gwydir Catchments, available as well.



Biodiversity Matters

Trees for Farms Field Day

GLENRAC will host our annual Trees for Farms field day on Thursday 11th October 2012 at "Ker Even". The field day will run from 9:30am to 12:00am. Guest speakers for this years field day will include Chris Everleigh from Kentucky Tree Nursery near Armidale, Shane Andrews, a farm forestry consultant who will speak on the production benefits of revegetation plantings.

Local tree planting service providers, Glen Industries will also talk on site preparation, planting and post planting care of seedlings. We will have the mounder from Border Rivers Gwydir CMA on display for those interested in site preparation techniques.

"Ker Even" is owned by Col & Joy Baker and we will be able to view a range of existing tree and shrub planting sites as well as the site for the 2012 plantings.

If you are planting trees this year and in the future we recommend you attend this field day to pick up tips and hints on how to get the best results from tree planting.



If you would like to attend please
RSVP to GLENRAC
on 02 6732 3443 or email
sally@glenrac.org.au
by the 9th October 2012.

Atlas of Living Australia

The Atlas of Living Australia (Atlas) contains information on all the known species in Australia aggregated from a wide range of data providers: museums, herbaria, community groups, government departments, individuals and universities. The Atlas also allows community members to add species records.

The Atlas of Living Australia (www.ala.org.au) project is a national collaboration between the Australian museums, herbaria and biological collections, and the Commonwealth Government, to create a national database of Australia's flora and fauna, all freely available online at www.ala.org.au

The Atlas is helping to build a more detailed picture of Australia's biodiversity and provide more adequate biodiversity data for researchers, environmental managers and policy makers.

In its first five years, the Atlas has built a rich database of information on Australian plants, animals and fungi, with over 30 million occurrence records from biodiversity surveys and 170,000 species pages, plus photo galleries, distribution maps and mapping tools, national species lists, heritage literature, and more - a one-stop shop for information about Australia's biodiversity. The atlas also has the ability for community to load flora and fauna records, with spatial data.

2012 Australian Year of the Farmer Event

The Farm-Link Project, in conjunction with the local advisory group "Proud to be Farming, Inverell" are hosting a special event on Wednesday 26th September 2012 at the Inverell RSM Club, Evans St, Inverell from 9am until 2pm

Keynote speakers include:

Senator John Williams, Inverell

Meg Perceval, Co-ordinator Farm-Link Project

Professor Prasuna Reddy, Director of the NSW Centre for Rural and Remote Mental Health

Michael O'Brien, Walgett Farmer and Farmer of the Year 2009

Kevin Humphries, NSW State Mental Health Minister and

Nathan Hindmarsh, Rugby League Player, Author and born & bred country boy

A tour of the Boss Engineering Factory will be taking place from 2.30pm for those interested

Farmers touch the lives of Australians every day. We want people to connect to farmers and for people in our rural communities to connect to each other. Come and celebrate our local farmers!

Cost \$25pp includes morning tea and lunch. For further information and to RSVP please contact:

Meg Perceval 0427 072 105 meg.perceval@newcastle.edu.au or

Andrew Biddle 0427 825 725 andrew.biddle@lhpa.org.au



New Funding Opportunities

Be Natural Landcare Grants Program 2012

The Be Natural Landcare Grants Program 2012 is now open. If you're interested in getting a local environmental project off the ground, like a community garden, greening an urban space, the Be Natural Landcare Grants could be just for you.

Twenty grants of up to \$2,500 are available for volunteer community groups to work on projects such as building local community gardens or creating indoor edible gardens within community centres while aiming to get more volunteers involved across community oriented environmental projects. For further information please visit:

www.landcareonline.com.au

Applications Close: Friday 26th October 2012



Fish Habitat Action Grants

The Habitat Action Program supports the improvement of recreationally important fish populations, engages recreational anglers in fish habitat actions through the Fisheries for Fish Habitat project, provides devolved habitat action grants to enhance fisheries in NSW. The Habitat Action Program is funded by the revenue raised by the NSW recreational fishing fee.

Angling clubs, individuals, community groups, local councils and organisations interested in rehabilitating fish habitats in freshwater and saltwater areas throughout NSW can apply for grants. Habitat rehabilitation projects which may be funded include: removal or modification of barriers to fish passage, rehabilitation of riparian lands, re-snagging waterways with timber structure, removal of exotic vegetation from waterways, bank stabilisation works and reinstatement of natural flow regimes

Funding applications require the completion of the habitat-specific Funding Application form and must relate to the enhancement of recreational fishing through the improvement of fish habitat. Applicants may apply for a small grant (maximum \$1,000 excluding GST) or a large grant (maximum \$40,000 excluding GST). For more information visit: www.dpi.nsw.gov.au

Applications close 5pm September 28, 2012.

GVESHO Program

The Grants to Voluntary Environment, Sustainability and Heritage Organisations (GVESHO) program helps eligible community based organisations to value, conserve and protect Australia's natural environment and historic heritage and to promote sustainability by assisting with their administrative costs.

Grants provided through the program may be used to assist with salaries and salary on-costs for executive and administrative staff; office accommodation rental; electricity, gas, phone and other similar charges; essential office supplies and equipment; staff and volunteer training; photocopying and printing costs; and travel costs incurred on behalf of the organisation.

For more information, guidelines and application forms visit: [GVESHO funding page](#) or contact gvesho@environment.gov.au or 1800 003 562.

Applications close 5pm (AEST) 14 September 2012

Small Grants for Small Rural Communities Program

The Small Grants for Small Rural Communities is a collaborative program supported by various partners. The program will offer up to \$400,000 per round in grants up to \$5,000 for projects and activities that offer clear public benefit for communities, with populations of 10,000 or less, living in small rural and remote locations in Australia, contributing to their development in social and community welfare, economic, environmental, health, education or cultural areas.

Applications are invited from not-for-profit, incorporated community organisations. Organisations should have an ABN or Incorporation Certificate and projects must be for a charitable purpose (benefit the whole community). Deductible Gift Recipient status (DGR) is not required for this grant program. For more information visit www.frrr.org.au **Applications close 30th September 2012.**

Looking for more grants?

The GLENRAC website is updated weekly with new funding opportunities' as they become available. To keep up to date visit the website and see what else is available from time to time, www.glenrac.org.au



GLENRAC OPERATING COMMITTEE 2011 /2012

CHAIRMAN - Jim Benton

TREASURER / SECRETARY - Dr Eric Sinclair

LANDHOLDER & DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES:

Greg Chappell, Tony Hollis, Winsome Quilty, Mark Pietsch, Sam Baker, John Bavea, Mike Norton
Glen Innes Severn Council : Graham Price & Dan Raymond
Department of Primary Industries : Jeff Lowien , National Parks & Wildlife Office: Peter Croft
New England Livestock Health & Pest Authority: Rob Munro,
Glen Innes Local Aboriginal Lands Council: Karen Potter
Public Officer: John Brien

For all questions relating to funding and funding applications, contact
GLENRAC OFFICE 68 Church Street (PO Box 660) GLEN INNES NSW 2370
Ph: (02) 6732 3443 Fax: (02) 6732 6628 Mobile 0427 325 901
email: glenrac@glenrac.org.au website: www.glenrac.org.au

GLENRAC
PO Box 660
GLEN INNES
NSW 2370



To the LAND Owner



Coming Events:

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|--------------|---|
| 19 Sept | GLENRAC Annual General Meeting, Glen Innes Services Club 7:00pm |
| 20 Sept | Healthy Soils workshop, Glen Innes 8:00am–5:00pm |
| 24 Sept | Introduction to writing winning grants workshop, Inverell, www.ourcommunity.com.au |
| 26 Sept | Year of the Farmer Event, Inverell 9:00am–2:00pm \$25 per person |
| 11 Oct | GLENRAC Tree Planting field day 9:30am–12:00am |
| 14-18 Oct | 16th Biennial Conference of the Australian Society of Agronomy, UNE Armidale |
| 20 Oct | Rummerys Hill Landcare meeting |
| 23-25 Oct | Pasture to Pocket workshop for young farmers, Glen Innes \$100 per person |
| 3-4 Nov | Working Dogs (weekend) Glen Innes NSW DPI PROfarm 02 6763 1276 |
| 29 or 30 Nov | Safe Quad Bike Handling course, Glen Innes NSW DPI PROfarm Ph 02 6763 1276 |

