

NAMBUCCA VALLEY LANDCARE



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Nambucca Valley LandCare has enough funding to continue for another year.

Every year around funding time my friends are sick and tired of me predicting our demise and Joy's and my appointment with the dole office. But the truth of the matter is that every year we do go that close. It is difficult to have no security and your future dependent on an every changing natural resource management strategy.

The funding to keep operating has come from 3 sources:-

1. The Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority has been able to renew our Community Support Contract. The contract is about 2/3rd of last years contract and has to deliver on the following targets

- engage the community in natural resource management
- assist with implementation of NRCMA projects and activities
- provide an access point for the community regarding NRCMA programs and other NRM information
- serve as a conduit for information and communication exchange between the community, key stakeholders and the NRCMA
- represent and promote the role and work of the NRCMA.

That left about \$36k to make up to keep to the office functioning at the same level as last year.

2. NVL and Nyambaga Goori Green Team formed a partnership and applied for \$100k from the federal government's **Caring for our Country** funding. The project will focus on indigenous engagement, the protection and enhancement of littoral rainforest, reducing the impact of weeds of national significance, improved coastal land management practice and community involvement and education.

On-ground work will include bitou and lantana control along Foresters Beach (South Beach) and 3 beach access across the Nambucca. (If you know of any pathways that need repair or formalising contact the office)

NVL will get about \$15k to manage, administer and report on the project.

3. NVL was also a part of a **CfoC** bid submitted by NRCMA for NSW coastal environments.

The project will provide funds for coastal groups, training and other activities that meet **CfoC Targets**. NVL will receive \$10K to manage, hold field days and training days and report on the project.

Finally Tim and Joy have been contracted by Mid North Coast Farm Foresters as coordinators, at one day a week. Go to their updated website <http://www.mncff.org.au>

So.... work continues

2009 NSW Landcare Catchment Management Forum

Celebrating 20 years of Landcare!

Port Macquarie - September 9,10,11th 2009

The Future of Landcare is Forum Focus

There is a wide range of challenging issues for delegates attending the 2009 Landcare Forum to consider. The forum, hosted by the Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority, has the theme "Landscapes, Communities and Resilience-Weathering Change".

The future of Landcare will be debated and there is expected to be plenty of views expressed on government thinking and the role Landcare will play in a community now switched on to the value of natural resources.

Some of the sessions that will attract interest include Indigenous Natural Resource Management, Resilient & productive ecosystems, Sustainability, Locally-based food production and quality water supply.

There is a Photo Competition and Poster displays which will highlight the enormous efforts made by enthusiastic groups and individuals across the state.

Where: The Glasshouse, Port Macquarie

When: September 9,10,11, including the 2009 NSW Landcare Awards Ceremony and Dinner on the evening of the 10th August.

For more information go to the NRCMA website at www.northern.cma.nsw.gov.au/news_events.php

For accommodation and registration bookings phone the Greater Port Macquarie Visitor Information Centre on 1300 303 155.

AQUATIC WEED EARLY DETECTION AND INTERVENTION

Be aware of invasive aquatic weeds within your properties and within public water bodies. Within our shire there are isolated infestations of the Class 3 Noxious aquatic weeds, Water Hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) and Salvinia (*Salvinia molesta*). There was one known infestation of the Class 1 Noxious Weed, Water Lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*), which was eradicated from a water body in the Nambucca area and has not re-emerged as a result of this control.

Aquatic weeds are mainly spread by human activities, such as:

- Deliberate introduction for “nursery sites”
- Movement of contaminated equipment such as boats, nets or machinery
- Discarding of fish tank / aquarium contents into water bodies

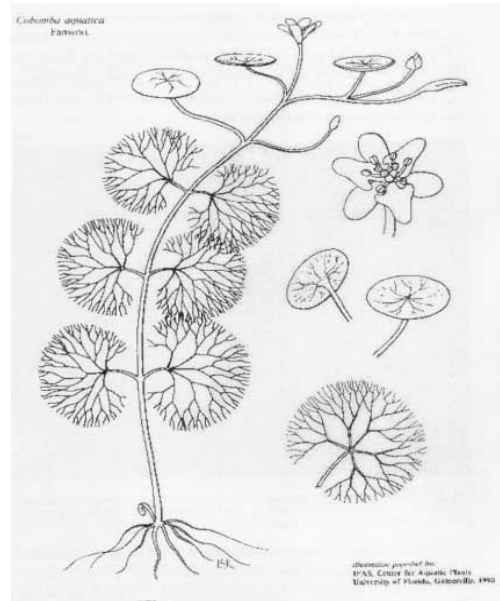
Emerging species that are established in the region include:

- Alligator weed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*) a native of South America, and a declared Noxious weed as well as a Weed of National Significance (WoNS). This weed affects aquatic systems by obstructing water flow through excessive vegetative growth, can create flooding and sedimentation problems, excludes the growth of other desired plant species and also has the ability to grow in terrestrial situations causing degradation to pastures for grazing, and contamination of crops, hay, turf, sand and soil. This plant can also provide a better habitat for mosquitoes and also restricts light penetration, which can upset the ecology of aquatic systems.



- Cabomba (*Cabomba caroliniana*) also a WONS species and Class 2 Noxious weed in the Nambucca. Cabomba forms

dense underwater thickets that interfere with swimming and boating activities, depletes oxygen and light, replaces native plants and also increases mosquito breeding. This weed species is present in water bodies in the region. Cabomba is a native of South America.



Other emergent species include Hygrophila (*Hygrophila costata*), Sagittaria (*Sagittaria platyphylla*) and Senegal Tea Plant (*Gymnocoronis spilanthoides*), all of which have been identified in the Mid and Far North Coast areas of NSW. Aquatic weeds are often extremely difficult and costly to control, therefore early detection and intervention is best practice to ensure these highly invasive species do not establish within the area. Ensure all machinery or equipment is thoroughly cleaned prior to entering your property, especially around water courses, and please report any suspected outbreaks of aquatic or other weeds not currently established in the Shire.

If you suspect that you have seen any of these species or other invasive plant species please contact your local Noxious Weed Inspector, Tim Woodward on 0417 271 378 or 65 682 555 or email tim.woodward@nambucca.nsw.gov.au.

Nambucca Valley Tree Fair

**Bowraville Race Course
Date: Sat 26th September
Time: 8am to 1pm**

Trees, shrubs, herbs, flowers, native tubestock
suited to the Mid North Coast

Expert Advice from the nursery owners.

Funding advice from Nambucca Valley LandCare.

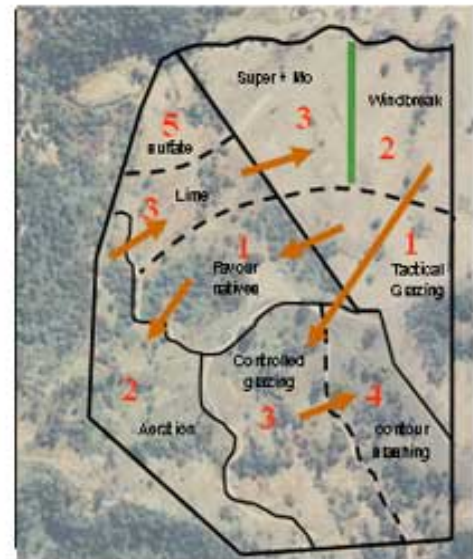
Entry Free
Sites available
Contact Tim at Nambucca Valley LandCare
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Farming in a Changing Climate

Workshops from the NSW Dept of Primary Industries
Bowraville 8th September.

Topics Covered

- Assessing the financial implications.
- Tools to manage seasonal risk
- Benchmarking soil carbon for credits.
- Building resilience in your farm to optimise long term production.
- Reading the biological, physical and chemical properties of soil as a complete picture.
- Targeting inputs to reduce costs.
- How to improve soil moisture storage, infiltration, root depth and reduce evaporation.
- Methods to sequester and build soil carbon tailored to soil, slope and aspect.
- Improving pasture utilisation strategies.
- Develop a paddock by paddock plan for drier seasons.



Comments from other landowners:

- "Most valuable. Wish this information was available to most people on the land."
- "One of the most valuable courses I have ever done."
- "Immediate relevance to individual properties makes this a valuable course."
- "Extremely valuable. Neighbours are asking when the next course will be."
- "This course has pointed out directions I had not considered before."
- "Will prove an invaluable tool in improving our farming practices."
- "I feel I have a more informed approach to actions before investing money and effort."
- "Extremely valuable in raising awareness of climate change and options."

Course includes:

- Soil testing equipment
- Subsidised soil tests
- Course notes
- Resource publications
- Planning overlays
- 3 days of training
(Sept 8, Oct 20, Oct 21)
- Professional advice
- A paddock by paddock plan
- Valued at \$930

"Farmready" program will fully reimburse course costs, travel and childcare to primary producers. Early pre-registration an absolute requirement.

Register by contacting- Greg Reid
Ph 66261213,
greg.reid@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Supported by the Australian Government "Farmready" Program FRTC0230



Small Grants for Flood Disaster River Restoration Program: Implementing Post Flood River NRM Actions – Maria to Tweed Rivers.

Following the February 2009 flood events in northern NSW, NRCMA River Officers and CSO's have responded to a large number of inquiries from landholders with severe damage to riparian areas. Significant damage has occurred to existing on-ground works, as well as new sites. Many of these cases require immediate action to prevent further deterioration, with the associated impacts to river stability and water quality. Under the current NSW disaster relief funding program, repair of flood damage to waterways is not eligible, and landholders do not have access to assistance from any other agency or department for this type of problem. The small-scale grant program proposed here will assist landowners mitigate the new and unexpected threats to their waterways. The Nambucca received 4 small grants. Work has commenced.