FINIA
FRASER ISLAND NATURAL INTEGRITY ALLIANCE

Newsletter

Sustaining the natural integrity of Fraser Island together *May 2015*

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Welcome to the first edition of the FINIA newsletter for 2015, keeping FINIA members up to date with the current FINIA projects.

A special thank you to Ross Belcher for chairing our last meeting. **Your next FINIA meeting will be held on Tuesday 12 May 2015 in the Reception Room, Maryborough Town Hall, starting at 10am and finishing at 2pm (a light lunch will be provided).**

Please email any agenda items to *contactFINIA@gmail.com*

Collaboration Helps Monitor Impacts on Natural Integrity

For the past three years, Fraser Island Defenders Organisation (FIDO) has embarked on a monitoring project on Fraser Island. Of particular concern was to try to quantify the impact of sediment movement along Fraser Island roads. FIDO established some posts to collect data on the volume of sand being deposited in some areas - mainly between Eurong and Central Station, with some measurements at Lake McKenzie (Boorangoora). At some sites we were also seeking to assess the extent of down cutting of the roads through measurement and photo-monitoring.

Setting up the Lake McKenzie (Boorangoora) rain gauge that had to be located in a clear open area away from people.

The assessment has been hindered by a lack of rainfall data away from Eurong and Kingfisher which record official rainfall registrations.

With the assistance of small grants through the Burnett Mary Regional Group and support from Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service (QPWS), FIDO has established very sophisticated new rain gauges at Lake McKenzie (Boorangoora), Central Station and Lake Coomboo. These not only record aggregate rainfall but the intensity of the rain. It is the intensity that is critical to the extent of scouring of road surfaces.

A new gauge soon to be installed at Happy Valley will enable rainfall registrations to be read on line in real time rather than having to wait to physically access these gauges to obtain readings.

The rainfall data will provide a better picture of rainfall distribution on Fraser Island and should help in natural resource and fire management. Until now we have not been in a position to know how much rainfall may vary between various parts of the island yet such information is critical for our understanding both from an ecological and a management perspective.

Sediment movement observed at the intersection of Central Station, Eurong and the Lake McKenzie link road during the passing of Cyclone Marcia. One event moved countless tonnes of sand.

A new collaboration brings the University of the Sunshine Coast into the picture as they extend the understanding of the extent of road scouring and its impacts. The projects will be carried out by fourth year students under the supervision of Dr Adrian McCallum. So far, the project has involved collaborations of four different groups, but in the end Fraser Island will be the beneficiary of the project.

John Sinclair, FIDO

FIDO's Bush Regeneration program

FIDO held six weeding weeks on Fraser Island in 2015, three working on Eurong bush regeneration and three in Happy Valley with a heavy focus on controlling the Abrus infestation there. This year FIDO is making some transitional changes to its weeding and bush regeneration programs as some of the older players, including John Sinclair and Su Dawson, withdraw to a less active role and pass the leadership on to others.

While these volunteers attacked a large Coral Creeper infestation manually around the edges, the core of the invasion had to be chemically sprayed because it was so dense.

They led a week working in Eurong from 15th to 21st February 2015, when they encountered some impacts from Cyclone Marcia. This was an inconvenience and cause the work to stop earlier than planned but they still managed to contribute 229 hours working on the ground in Eurong. Cyclone Marcia enabled some closer visual monitoring of actual sediment movement along the roads and capturing some useful images for the monitoring program that is discussed elsewhere.

FIDO continues to deal with very significant area of Coral Creeper infestations, some so extensive that they required spraying. Lesser infestations were cleared manually wherever sighted augmenting the chemical treatment areas.

Many other weeds were also dealt with in the course of the week including Brazilian cherries (over 100 in Second Valley area), Brazilian nightshade, Singapore daisies, Easter cassia, Green panic grass, Mossman River grass, Siratro, Syngonium, Madiera Vine, 2 Umbrella Trees, Corky Passion vine, Mile-a-minute, and Mother of Millions.

The weed situation at Eurong though continues to improve as more and more weeds are eliminated. While FIDO believes that it is getting on top of the problem there FIDO certainly believes that there is a need to carry out at least three weeding programs per year to keep in control of the weed problem and to continue to transform the village to give it a more natural look befitting its World Heritage status.

John and Su will formally lead their last weeding operation to Eurong from 24th to 30th May. After that FIDO's Eurong weeding operations will be led by Maree Prior who has planned two more trips for 2015 — 25th July to 1st August and 24th October to 1st November. Maree has long experience in many facets of Landcare and Coastcare. Her background adds a new dimension to FIDO's weeding program that has been going for 23 years but is gaining new momentum with support from BMRG.

The other part of FIDO's weeding operations is the Abrus Attack in Happy Valley. In 2014 Peter Shooter led three major assaults on this weed scourge and his next trip, already fully booked with volunteers is from 10th to 16th May. He has two other trips planned for the latter part of the year — 16th to 22nd August and 8th to 14th November.

What is encouraging is the response from volunteers. In mid-March FIDO sent out a call for volunteers to its Email network. Within ten days it had filled all available places on all six working bees with several volunteers from previous trips returning. That is testimony to the attraction of both Fraser Island and the working conditions.

John Sinclair, FIDO

New paper published on Fraser Island: Re-framing values for a World Heritage future: what type of icon will K'gari-Fraser Island become?

In a new paper just published by the Australasian Journal of Environmental Management (AJEM), Grant Wardell-Johnson, David Shoeman, Thomas Schlacher, Angela Wardell-Johnson, Mike Weston, Yoko Shimuzu and Gabriel Conroy examine the future of Fraser Island as an icon.

K'gari-Fraser Island is the world's largest barrier sand island with unique landscapes and conservation values. The world heritage values that have heralded international recognition are under increasing pressure from destructive environmental use in concert with climate change.

Investment by management agencies and society can enable K'gari-Fraser Island to exemplify innovative, adaptive management to retain the values that have inspired its status.

This paper synthesizes the likely impacts of human pressures and predicted consequences on the values of this island. Hundreds of thousands of annual visitors are inspired by, but also impact on the island's biodiversity, ecological functions, environmental values and cultural connections.

Surprisingly little monitoring is carried out, even of visitors. Maintaining world heritage values will necessitate the re-framing of values to integrate socio-economic factors in management, and reduce extractive forms of tourism. Environmentally sound, systematic conservation planning, that achieves social equity is urgently needed to rectify historical mistakes, and update current management practices.

Characterising and sustaining biological refugia will be important to retain biodiversity in areas less-visited. The development of a coherent approach to interpretation that accurately reflects history, access and values is required to generate a sympathetic use of this world heritage environment. Without monitoring and adaptive management to foster up-to-date management programs K'gari-Fraser Island will quickly

become just another degraded recreational facility. This will act as a significant drain on Australia's significant cache of environmental integrity.

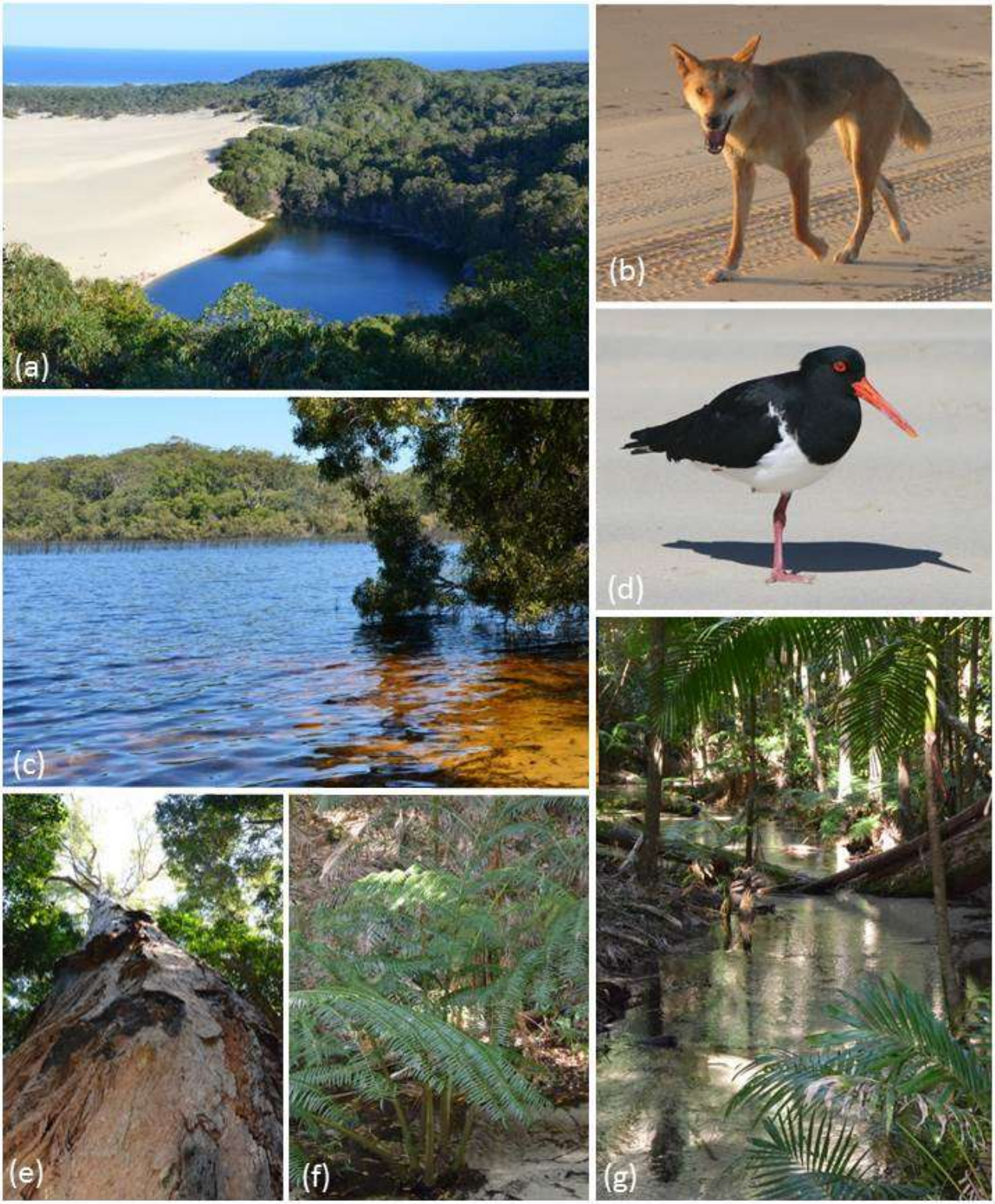

Figure (2) from paper: Iconic landscapes and biota characteristic of K'gari-Fraser Island. a) Sand blow and barrage lake – Hammerstone Sand blow and Lake Wabby; b) Dingo – Canis lupis dingo on eastern beach; c) Perched lake – Lake Garawongera; d) Pied oystercatcher – Haematopus longirostris; 2e) Satinay – Syncarpia hillii; f) Giant fern – Angiopteris evecta g) Clear streams – Wanggoolba Creek. Photograph credits Fig a, c, e, f, g Grant Wardell-Johnson; Fig b Debra Livingston; Fig d Mike Weston

This paper is part of a special issue with AJEM titled: Future of an icon: K'gari-Fraser Island, climate change and social expectations. There are eight papers in the issue, which will appear with a comprehensive editorial in June covering everything from dingo management to spatial data for the island, cultural philosophy and social values (as they impact decision-making) and the impact of tourism representation on opportunities for the Traditional Owners – the Butchulla people.

Grant Wardell-Johnson, Curtin University

Figure (3) from paper: Threats to iconicity, and contrasting interpretation materials in a World Heritage area, K'gari-Fraser Island. Fig 3a) Increased frequency and intensity of fire on K'gari-Fraser Island is a likely consequence of climate change; 3b) Vehicular tracks can lead to sand blows and access to introduced plants and animals; 3c) The few beaches free of vehicular traffic threatens shorebirds, other wildlife and their habitats; 3d) Interpretation material in Pile Valley emphasizing timber quality; 3e) Contemporary interpretation panel at Lake Garawongera emphasizing biodiversity; 3f) Contemporary interpretation material concerning interactions between people and dingoes on K'gari-Fraser Island; 3g) Plantation forestry species can become problematic weeds with land use changes. The sign is ironically headed 'Former forest giants', these having been replaced by exotic pines; 3h) Settlements lead to rubbish disposal needs and potential nutrient enrichment and the establishment of introduced plants and animals. All photographs Grant Wardell-Johnson.

Great Sandy Strait Land Managers

A meeting of the Great Sandy Strait Land Managers was convened by the Burnett Mary Regional Group for NRM Ltd. (BMRG) on 24 March 2015.

Great Sandy Strait Land Managers at their recent meeting, photo: Goorie Vision

The meeting provided a perfect platform for all Great Sandy Strait Land Managers to share their projects and day-to-day management activities of relevance to the Straits and Fraser Island.

Project updates were provided by representatives from the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS), Fraser Coast Regional Council, Noosa and District Landcare, Goorie Vision, the Lower Mary Catchment Coordinating Group, Department of Environment and Heritage Protection, local landholders and the University of Queensland.

The vast array of projects underway in the Straits and on Fraser was very inspiring, a snap shot of just some of the projects includes:

- *Aligning conservation community and research priorities for species and habitat management of Dugong in the Great Sandy Strait* (Noosa and District Landcare)
- *Most Significant Change*, a monitoring and evaluation project for *Keeping it Great* (Goorie Vision)
- Updating the Ramsar Information Sheet for the Great Sandy Strait and the Great Sandy Strait Interactive Catchment Management Program (Department of Environment and Heritage Protection)
- Water mouse surveys – Great Sandy Strait and Burrum Coast regions (University of Queensland)
- Recovering Queensland's Threatened Migratory Shorebirds (University of Queensland)
- Big Woody Island and surrounds, weeding/rubbish removal, and shorebird monitoring (Lower Mary Catchment Coordinating Group)
- Big Woody Island lighthouse maintenance/ repair, artificial reef development, pest and weed management, supporting ECOllaboration and Conservation Volunteers Australia projects including creek clean ups, walking track maintenance, weeding and campground working bees (QPWS).

BMRG provided an insightful overview of the Keeping it Great Funding Program 2013-18 for both the Great Sandy Strait Ramsar Site and Fraser Island. Their key *Keeping it Great* objectives being:

- Maintain Ecological Character of Great Sandy Strait Ramsar site – a Wetland of International Significance; and
- Meet World Heritage Convention requirements by investing in actions to reduce critical threats & improve, restore and enhance the outstanding universal value & integrity of Fraser Island.

Milestones for the program include: threatened species survey and monitoring, weed and feral animal control, access management, community education and support, Great Sandy Strait Interactive Management Program, and the Monitoring and Evaluation of *Keeping it Great*. If you would like to know more about the *Keeping it Great* program please contact Kath Nash on kath.nash@bmrg.org.au.

Submitted by: Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service

Sand, Sea and Sun - 6th Biennial Fraser Island Conference

Keynote Speaker:
Emeritus Professor Ian Lowe

Innovation Centre — University of the Sunshine Coast
Wednesday, 12 August, 2015 — 9.00 am to 5.00 pm
COST: Registration, including a light lunch, morning and afternoon tea, $100. ($80 for FIDO members, $60 for students and concessions).

FIDO's previous Fraser Island conferences 2020 Vision (Noosa 2004), True Grit (USC 2006), Shifting Sands (The Gap 2009) FIDO @ 40 (The Gap 2011), A Natural Laboratory (Mt Coo-tha 2013) have dealt with a range of themes. An exciting program coinciding with Brisbane's Ekka holiday is now taking shape.

Our Sixth Great Sandy Conference promises to be their best yet. There is a new layer of responsibility now that the Butchulla have Native Title over K'Gari that they may have occupied for 40,000 years. Very eminently qualified speakers will make presentations to the conference that will help to understand Fraser Island's World Heritage Outstanding Universal Value. New insights should assist in improving the management of this site. The theme aims to increase our understanding of the geomorphology, the marine environment and the impacts of climate change. It also allows scope to discuss the natural beauty of the site that is one of Fraser Island's three World Heritage criteria.

Sun:
There will be discussions on climate change and fire. Core sampling in the fens has revealed "evidence of significant environmental change, possibly associated with human arrival, between 40,000 to 35,000 years ago" and other changes indicating different climate regimes of the past. In November 2013 FIDO was privileged to assist in a detailed study of the Puthoo Fens near Moon Point. Dr Patrick Moss has titled his paper *Moon Point Mires – A 40,000 year window into the Fraser Island environment*. Two papers arise from work in the fens, the other dealing with *Fire Patterns of the Great Sandy Region.*

There has been much interesting research carried out in the Fraser Island fens in recent years. The International Mire Conservation Group came in 2013.

As well we are looking forward to presentations from government agencies, (yet to be confirmed) and discussions on Dingoes, Dilli Village, the role of volunteers and the significance of the rainforest flora. It promises to be a full and fascinating day of expanding our knowledge and understanding of this unique part of the globe.

University of Queensland team led by Dr. Patrick Moss examine a peat core from the Puthoo fens to help understand 40,000 years of ecological history

Sand:
Over 30 years, a CSIRO team carried out their ground-breaking studies in Cooloola that has helped our understanding of so much of the complexities of this part of the Great Sandy Region. They helped unravel and understand the chronosequences of dune systems. A team of scientists mainly from University of Queensland, led by Prof Jamie Schulmeister is about to embark on a multidisciplinary study of Fraser Island that rivals that of the CSIRO Cooloola dune studies in breadth and scope. Prof Jamie Schulmeister's asks the key question *"Is the answer blowing in the wind? — Towards an environmental history of the Fraser Island/K'gari dune fields'*.

Sea:
The Marine Environment of the Fraser Island Region features strongly. Dr Joachim Ribbe, Associate Professor in Climatology, USQ, has made some most interesting recent discoveries. These include the

"Southeast Fraser Island Upwelling System" and the classification of Hervey Bay as a hypersaline system. Great Sandy Strait will also get a very full treatment through his topic on *What is being done to keep Great Sandy Strait Great?*

The Great Sandy Strait is an internationally important wetland and one of the most significant migratory shorebird sites in Australia. Up to 40,000 shorebirds have used this location during the Australian summer. Dr. Jon Coleman (Queensland Wader Study Group will report on 20 years of observations.

On line registrations can be made at:
https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/6th-biennial- fraser-island-conference-tickets-16152826539

Using Bufo Toxin to Control Cane Toads on Fraser Island

An innovative scientific trial using cane toads' own defense mechanism (bufo toxin) against their own spawn could bring about the eradication of these pests from Fraser Island.

Workshop participants hard at work on Fraser Island, photo: Luke Barrowcliffe

Two workshops - the first on the mainland and held at the Botanical Gardens in Hervey Bay and the second held on Fraser Island - presented by Charlene Bezzina, research assistant from University of Sydney's School of Biological Sciences, showed a number of Fraser Island community group members how to extract toxin; build, bait and set traps and how to humanely euthanize cane toads and tadpoles.

Research in tadpole behaviours has found that they seek and consume newly laid toad eggs before they can pose a threat. With female cane toads able to lay up to 30,000 eggs at a time it was discovered that these eggs leak small amounts of Bufo toxin which is a powerful attractant for cane toad tadpoles. A funnel trap baited with toad toxin has proved very effective in catching cane toad tadpoles.

Following the workshops the trial in a single day saw more than 10,000 cane toad tadpoles captured within the traps that were set.

Community group members who attended the workshops; including members from the Fraser Island Natural Integrity Alliance (FINIA), the Fraser Island Association (FIA), Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS), and the Lower Mary River Land & Catchment Care Group who routinely operate on Fraser Island, plan to continue to set traps in areas of high conservation value on the Island as part of the ongoing trial.

Research assistant, Charlene Bezzina sinks a cane toad trap at Waddy Point, photo: David Anderson

Special thanks are extended to Don and Lesley Bradley, Ross Belcher, Dan Novak and the QPWS team for helping make this event such a success.

Research into Human-Dingo Interactions

A small, multidisciplinary project in the disciplines of environmental humanities, environmental sociology, communication, geography and geo-spatial science has just been funded by DSTIA.

The project, entitled '*The Iconic Dingo: valuing their future on K'gari-Fraser Island*' aims to interpret existing K'Gari-Fraser Island visitor and human-dingo interaction data provided by QPWS partners as a guide to gathering new data on the way various stakeholders and interests value and expect to interact with dingoes.

These interactions between people and dingoes on K'gari-Fraser Island will be mapped in spatial layers to locate points of conflict in relation to key dingo habitat and visitor management sites.

The way different sectors value dingoes, make management initiatives challenging (Archer-Lean et al 2015) with a clear need to understand how public and private agencies communicate messages about the dingo to all stakeholders and how stakeholders receive and act on those messages.

This research identifies socio-cultural values that underpin planning for communications and will make recommendations for human-dingo experiences that are compliant with QPWS Dingo Management Strategy and World Heritage listing.

What does the Fraser Island dingo mean to you?

The team includes a range of expertise from literature and humanities, social science, spatial science and communications including Angela Wardell-Johnson (Environmental Sociology) who is on the Qld Government Biodiversity Partnership and Fraser Island Dingo Working Group and academic staff from the University of the Sunshine Coast, including Clare Archer-Lean (Literature, Environmental Humanities, Critical Human Animal Studies), Jen Carter (Geography), Umi Khattab (PR, Media Studies and Communication) and Yoko Shimizu (Spatial Science).

The team plan to meet with the various interest groups including FINIA group members, Butchulla Traditional Owners and other Indigenous interests through targeted consultation.

The expertise of FINIA members and those with interests on the Island are crucial in realising the research goals. For further information please contact: Dr Clare Archer-Lean carcher@usc.edu.au.

Dr Chair Archer-Lean, University of the Sunshine Coast

Weeds of the Month – please keep your eyes open for these!

Have you noticed plants in your gardens escaping and spreading into other parts of your garden or neighbourhood? You can help stop this spread by removing them wherever you see them and planting better alternatives that benefit the gardens diversity and reduce the possibility of weedy plants invading. Check the health of plants before bringing into your garden or you may spread things like Myrtle rust which is now prevalent on the Fraser Coast. For further details about this rust contact your local nursery, Council or DPI&F.

Mickey Mouse plant (*Ochna serrulata*) Flowering now!

Environmental Weed Declared under Local Law No. 3 (2010) for Fraser Island ONLY.

Origin: Native to Africa. Invades undisturbed native bushland and can become dense stands even in shady areas.

Description: Shrub to 2m with narrow glossy leaves and finely serrated wavy margins. Flowers in spring /summer and have five yellow petals which drop leaving five red sepals surrounding green to black pea sized seeds that's spread by birds.

Control: Hand remove when young as has deep taproot or cut and paste with a registered herbicide.

Garden alternatives: Lemon scented tea tree (*Leptospermum liversidgei*), Hop bush (*Dodonea triquetra*)

Brazillian Cherry (*Eugenia uniflora*) Flowering now!

Photos: Forest & Kim Starr

Environmental Weed

Alternative Name(s): *Eugenia brasiliana*, Surinam Cherry.

Origin: Native to northern Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay. Now naturalised in many tropical and sub-tropical countries around the world.

Description: Tree or shrub to 3-5 m, glossy dark green ovate leaves, young growth bronze/pink, aromatic when crushed. White flowers with prominent white stamens, autumn to spring. Edible fleshy fruit which have 7- or 8-ribs ripens to dark red.

Dispersal: Spread by animal-dispersed seed.

Control: Removal of the plant should be done before the fruit ripens, especially if the material is to be chipped or mulched. Larger plants may require chemical treatment.

Garden Alternatives: Midyim (*Austromyrtus dulcis*), Fringed Wattle (*Acacia fimbriata subsp. perangusta*), Blue Tongue (*Melastoma malabathricum*)

Coastal Morning Glory (*Ipomea cairica*)

Environmental Weed Declared under Local Law No. 3 (2010) for FRASER ISLAND ONLY

Alternative Name(s): Mile-A-Minute

Origin: Probably native of tropical areas of Africa and Asia although it's native range now obscure. Garden escape and localised major weed of the coastal regions of NSW and Queensland, especially along creeks.

Flowers/Seedhead: Surrounded by sepals 0.4–0.8 cm long, stamens and style included in flower tube. Flowers most of year.

Description: This vine is a perennial herb with twining and trailing stems. Roots tuberous and plant rooting at nodes. Plants hairless. Leaves round in outline, 3–10 cm long and wide, leaf stalk 2–6 cm long. Inflorescence axillary, 1–3 flowered. Capsule almost globe-shaped, 9–12 mm wide, with 2 chambers, splitting into 4 valves, contains up to 4 seeds. Seeds dark brown to black, 5–6 mm long, flattened ovoid, hairy with pale brown long hairs on outer ridges. Distinguishing features: Distinguished by deeply 5-segmented leaves with basal segments often lobed; funnel-shaped violet (rarely white) joined petals 3.5–6 cm long, 6–8 cm wide, with darker violet hairless mid-petal bands, throat usually darker.

Dispersal: Spread by seed and locally by spreading stems.

Control: Physical removal using a brush hook or similar tool. Take care to dig out and remove the crown and roots of the plant to prevent regrowth. Larger infestations may require the use of herbicides.

Garden Alternatives: Native hoya (*Hoya australis*), Wombat berry (*Eustrephus latifolius*), Native lilac (*Hardenbergia violaceae*)

Before using any herbicide always read the label carefully and apply strictly in accordance with directions on the label.
Keep an eye out for our officers inspecting areas throughout the region and happy weeding!

Declared, local law and environmental plants will be featured in the coming articles. For further information visit Council website www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au

Dates for the Diary

What: **Fraser Island Eco-Experience**
Where: Fraser Island, departing and returning to Nambour
When: 15-18 May 2015 and 12-15 June 2015
For: Experience Fraser Island on a guided volunteering experience. Includes transport from Nambour, two experienced environmental guides, all meals, 3 nights' accommodation . Experience the island whilst helping Rangers with environmental restoration projects. Places are limited.
Cost: $200
More info: Contact janine@ECOllaboration.org.au on phone (07) 5313 4059 or www.ECOllaboration.org.au

What: **Fraser Island ECO Excursions for Schools**
For: ECOllaboration is also taking school bookings for ECO Excursions to Fraser Island. These excursions link to the Australian Curriculum for subjects in Science, Geography, Maths, History, Civics, Business, Arts, Health and Technology and also meets the cross curriculum priority of sustainability in the curriculum.
More info: For a personalised and fully costed experience contact jacqui@ECOllaboration.org.au or call (07) 5313 4059.

What: **CVA Naturewise Conservation holiday – Fraser Island Conservation**
Where: Departing and returning to Maroochydore
When: 18-22 May and 1-5 June and 27-31 July
For: 4 night's accommodation on Fraser Island, return transfers from Maroochydore, all meals. Maximum 7 passengers, Conservation Volunteers guide, conservation activities, scheduled sightseeing activities on Fraser Island
Cost: From $720 (camping) or $840 (dorm room) – check price for your trip!
More info: www.naturewise.com.au, bookings@naturewise.com.au or phone 1800 032 501

What: **Sand, Sea and Sun: 2015 Fraser Island Conference**
Where: University of the Sunshine Coast, Sippy Downs
When: 12 August 2015
For: Registration for this conference is now open. Registration includes a full day of presentations, a light lunch, morning and afternoon tea. For more details, please see the article on page 7 of this newsletter. To register, please go to https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/6th-biennial-fraser-island-conference-tickets-16152826539
Cost: $100 ($80 for FIDO members, $60 for students and concessions)
More info: John Sinclair – john@sinclair.org.au or phone 0418 650 535

Funding Opportunities

What: **Norman Wettenhall Foundation – Small Environmental Grant Scheme**
For: Projects that enhance or maintain the vitality and diversity of the Australian natural living environment. Objectives of the Small Environmental Grants Scheme (up to $10K) are to support Australian biodiversity projects that are concerned with one or more of the following: monitoring/recording data, community education, community capacity building (training) and research/science. NWF has funded projects ranging from supporting local communities to maintain or restore habitat; to the production of education kits; and the publication and dissemination of research information.
When: Expressions of interest open, grant round opens 24 March 2015 (Trustee meeting 19 May 2015). Next grant round opens 23 June (Trustee meeting 18 August 2015) - get in early!
Phone: (03) 5472 1316 - Elizabeth (Beth) Mellick, Executive Officer
Email: beth@nwf.org.au
Website: http://www.nwf.org.au/

What: **Gambling Community Benefit Fund**
For: One-off grants of up to $35,000 (inc. GST) for not-for-profit organisations to help provide community services or activities that benefit the Queensland community.
When: Closing date for next for next round 31 May 2015
Email: cbf@treasury.qld.gov.au
Phone: (07) 3247 4284
Website: http://www.justice.qld.gov.au/corporate/sponsorships-and-grants/grants/community-benefit-funding-programs

What: **Australian Geographic Society Sponsorship**
For: Founded by Dick Smith, Each quarter up to $15,000 is made available for Australian Geographic Society Project Grants. Funding provided by the Society for Project Sponsorship target all four Project Categories: Science, Community, Adventure and Environment. The society also offers seed grants between $500 and $3000.
When: Round closes 30 November 2015
Phone: or (02) 9263 9825
Email: society@ausgeo.com.au
Website: http://www.australiangeographic.com.au/society/sponsorship/2013/11/apply-for-sponsorship

What: **The Mullum Trust**
For: Supports projects which have significant, ongoing or catalytic environmental outcomes. Grants are available from $100 to $10,000. Projects with specific localised environmental outcomes are preferred, although projects which are locally based but have far reaching impacts are also encouraged.
When: Ongoing
Phone: Mr Ryan Neoh on (03) 9671 6658
Email: rneoh@deloitte.com.au
Website: http://thetrusteeforthemullumtrust.myob.net/

What: **Cheaperthanhotels Fundraising and Sponsorship Program**
For: Cheaperthanhotels offer a wide range of opportunities for sponsorship and fundraising support for community groups, non-profit organizations, schools, universities and sports clubs. We can help your organization achieve its goals by providing much needed financial support. Each organisation will be assessed on a case by case basis and you could gain anything from $250 up to $25,000 a year in funding.
When: Ongoing
Phone: (02) 8263 5111
Website: http://www.cheaperthanhotels.com/sponsorship/

For those of you that like Facebook – you may want to keep an eye on **Australian Grants and Awards** page who keep a watchful eye on additional funding opportunities as they become available: https://www.facebook.com/ausgrants