

NEWSLETTER

March 2011

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Phascogale tapoatafa (Tian)

Successful Funding Applications

Caring for Our Country

Once again Bill Wells has facilitated the success of two more STLG funding applications. The Communities of Concern Working for Seven Creeks Catchment Health (Stage 2) application has achieved \$20,000 funding from Caring for Our Country. The components of this project are described as demonstrating best management practice for promoting and maintaining riparian health by:

- Fencing off waterways
- Revegetating for shade, erosion control and biodiversity connectivity
- Providing buffer zones for habitat take up
- Promoting the formation of a biolink along the Sevens from “Plateau to Plains”
- Promoting the uptake of Local Management Rules for sustainable water extraction

There will be an onsite Field Day for this project March 11, on Seven Creeks above Smith’s Bridge.



**GOULBURN
BROKEN
CATCHMENT
MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY**

The second recent successful application was for a Community Education Grant through the Broken Goulburn Implementation Committee for \$4000.

This will provide base funding to develop an Information Kiosk at the Smith’s Bridge end of the Bridge to Bridge Reserve.

It will illustrate essential components of a healthy catchment with inputs from water authorities, government departments, schools and Landcare.

Strathbogie Shire C. 48 Proposed Planning Amendment Update

The following is a summary from the Strathbogie Shire Council minutes of December 21, 2010

Following public exhibition of proposed planning scheme amendment C 48 approximately 300 submissions objecting to the proposed rezoning of land at CA20B Section D, Watkins Road, Creek Junction, from public conservation and Resource Zone (PCRZ) to Farming Zone (FZ) were received. Councilors Murray/Swan put a motion that Council abandons the amendment. On being put, the motion was carried.

It was a great effort by all involved. In particular, the Tableland community owes a big thank you for the diligent efforts of David Jamieson, Helen Peters and John Irvine.



Gecko Clan

Gecko Clan has a new Coordinator, David Cleeland, who replaces Charlie Sexton. Kerri Robson will continue in her role as Support Officer.

Several expressions of interest have been submitted to fund:

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| • Landcare support in the Mid Goulburn Broken region | \$158,704 |
| • A vegetation protection extension program | \$104,230 |
| • Limiting the spread of Chilean Needle Grass | \$46,000 |
| • Native Grass Education Project | \$20,350 |
| • Promoting Landcare tourism (Signage) | \$7,000 |
| • Use of pasture cropping and strategic grazing | \$72,000 |

There has been some difficulty experienced in maintaining funding for the pasture cropping program.

An excellent soil microbiology seminar was held at Warrenbayne Hall on February 2. We recommend you keep your eyes open for similar events.

The Orchard Swallowtail Butterfly

The largest butterfly in Victoria, the Orchard Swallowtail, has turned up in good numbers on the Strathbogie Tableland this year. But even though the adult is the size of a human hand, they're easy to miss unless you look out for them. Often, you only know of their presence by noticing that something is munching on the leaves of your orange tree. The caterpillars eat the leaves of citrus trees (and a few other plants), accounting for its other common name, the Large Citrus Butterfly. The Orchard Swallowtail is one of several 'citrus butterflies' that are more common this year than at any time in the past; the Dainty Swallowtail and Chequered Swallowtail.

For more info visit our local natural history website Strathbogie Ranges Nature View (<http://strathbogierangesnatureview.wordpress.com/>) and search for 'swallowtail', or 'butterfly'.



Bert Lobert

Rural Extension Program

The time has come, the last opportunity to take advantage of 50% rebate on chemical control for blackberry. The current round closes end of this month.

Contact Dennis Taylor



Broken Goulburn Implementation Committee Update

The Catchment Management Authority merger has now been cancelled by the new State Government. The Goulburn Murray Catchment Management Authority will continue as the main entity for catchment management in our area. There will possibly be some changes to occur in structure. Watch this space.



Peter Ryan - Chair

Flood damage is the main issue at the moment. With only part of the funds requested from the State Government allocated to date, it is a very slow process.

Friends of Bridge to Bridge

With recurrent flooding and the last working bee being washed out by rain, not too much has been accomplished along the Bridge to Bridge trail in recent months. We have repeatedly cleaned up flood debris and cleared the track, tried to maintain a presentable picnic area and wondered when it will all end. Maybe we will get a fresh start this month, with annual planning and the next working bee due the last weekend of March.

Working Bees

Minor – FOBB will continue to gather every fourth Sunday 0900 to 1100, meeting at Smith's Bridge for basic maintenance tasks.

Major – FOBB and Landcare will combine twice during the year for works requiring larger numbers of people and more equipment, once in autumn and once in spring, as advised by snail and email flyer.

COMING EVENTS

Organisation	Event	Who & Where	When
STLG	Field Day & BBQ, Seven Creeks Catchment Health Project	Bill Wells, Seven Creeks, Strathbogie above Smith's Bridge	Mar 11, 2011
CMA	Water Management Forum	Bill Wells, Euroa Arboretum	April, 2011

Coming Events Notification

Forward events you would like publicised through the Landcare network to:

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