



ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017

Land for Wildlife South East Queensland



2016-2017

234 Land for Wildlife properties joined
174 Registered + 60 Working Towards Registration

3,282 hectares added to
Land for Wildlife network
2,806 hectares of Retained Habitat +
476 hectares Under Restoration

4,590 Facebook followers
790 new followers this year

4 newsletters
with 6,500 readers per edition
as of 30 June 2017

166 unique Facebook posts
Average reach to 12,954 people weekly
Highest reach to 15,700 people (promoting Cane Toad Challenge)
Highest engagement of 1,038 people (Frog habitat innovation
using PVC piping)

Incentives supplied:

40,600 native trees **210** reference books
\$656K towards on-ground conservation work **394** nest boxes
plus herbicides, tool belts and other items

60,697 hectares of land under
conservation management with
a further **6,752** hectares under
restoration
as of 30 June 2017

4,181 Land for Wildlife properties in SEQ
3,291 Registered + 890 Working Towards Registration
as of 30 June 2017

Matters of National Environmental Significance

on new Land for Wildlife
properties include:

33.15 hectares of Lowland
Rainforest of
Subtropical Australia

0.12 hectares of Brigalow

0.46 hectares of
Swamp Tea-Tree

14 species of plants and
animals

(see page 7 for details)



www.lfwseq.org.au



facebook.com/lfwseq

Front page image: Woodland Colouring
Competition Winning Entry by Land for
Wildlife member, Annabelle Dennehy.

Respecting Culture

REDLAND



"I enjoyed going to the Land for Wildlife area and hearing about veteran trees. It was really interested to hear about uncovering middens as weeds are cleared away."

"It was all excellent. It was wonderful to get an insight into Quandamooka culture. I also loved Brown Lake and the welcome by Aunty Evelyn Parkin. What an amazing woman she is."

"I have visited Straddie on many occasions in the past 40 years but have never interacted with the local custodians. I really enjoyed the whole experience."

On 13 August 2016, Redland City Council in partnership with Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation (QYAC) and Healthy Land and Water delivered a full-day workshop for 50 Land for Wildlife members on Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island).

Participants were treated to a tour of many important indigenous cultural sites including Bummeira (Brown Lake), Capembah Creek (Myora Springs), traditional middens and ochre-making sites.

As part of their Native Title determination, Quandamooka People have been granted exclusive use to parts of Minjerribah. This tour visited one of these sites, which has been registered with Land for Wildlife. Here, people heard Traditional Owners speak of their relationship to country and how the landscape we see today was in part created by traditional indigenous fire management. QYAC Rangers are working on their country to remove weeds, re-instate traditional fire regimes and protect cultural artefacts.



Working Together



Land for Wildlife South East Queensland Steering Committee, December 2016.

The Land for Wildlife Steering Committee meets regularly to direct the regional program and share learnings. The Committee is comprised of representatives from 11 Local Governments and Healthy Land and Water.

Five Steering Committee meetings were held in the 16/17 financial year.

The Committee oversaw the:

- Rebuild of the Land for Wildlife website.
- Development of new Technical Notes.
- Review and re-signing of program Memorandum of Understanding.
- Election of a new Chairperson.
- Scoping of new database functionality.
- Planning of 20th anniversary events.

Standing Backrow L to R: Stephanie Reif, SCC; Shannon Mooney, HLW; Fflur Collier, BCC; Keith McCosh, SRRRC; Nicole Walters, LCC; Peter Copping, LCC; Tony Mlynarik, BCC; Darren McPherson, SRC; Liam Gill, LCC; Scott Sumner, CoGC; Susan Nolan, BCC; Peter Hayes, BCC; Catherine Madden, BCC; Daniel Parker, CoGC; Ainslie Dyki, MBRC; Saul Hondow, CoGC; Louise Orr, HLW; Amanda Maggs, BCC; Maree Manby, RCC and Kylie Gordon, NC.

Frontrow L to R: Trevor Kanapi, LCC; Todd Burrows, CoGC; Deborah Metters, HLW; Wendy Heath, MBRC and Stephani Grove, ICC.

Apologies: Rachel Booth, LCC; Rebecca Condon, LCC; Marc Russell, SCC; Dave Burrows, SCC; Julie O'Connor, SCC; Alan Wynn, SCC; Danielle Crawford, SCC; Nick Clancy, SCC; Cody Hochen, BCC; Lexie Webster, CoGC; Kaori van Baalen, LVRC.

Brisbane City Council (BCC)

City of Gold Coast (CoGC)

Healthy Land and Water (HLW)

Ipswich City Council (ICC)

Lockyer Valley Regional Council (LVRC)

Logan City Council (LCC)

Moreton Bay Regional Council (MBRC)

Noosa Council (NC)

Redland City Council (RCC)

Scenic Rim Regional Council (SRRRC)

Somerset Regional Council (SRC)

Sunshine Coast Council (SCC)

Learning Together



Training workshops are a great way for Land for Wildlife Officers to get together, refine their skills and learn from each other. They build the skills and knowledge of the entire Land for Wildlife network.

Weed Control and Herbicide Use Workshop, 25/10/16

Weed control is the number one conservation activity undertaken by Land for Wildlife members. It is therefore essential that Officers are able to provide practical advice on efficient and effective weed control techniques.

Veteran and Cultural Heritage Tree Management Workshop, 9/11/16

Delivered by a team of ecologists, fire managers and Traditional Owners, this workshop covered veteran tree ecology, how to age trees based on recent research and appropriate fire management to protect veteran and indigenous cultural heritage trees.



"It was great to be able to share experiences/knowledge with other LfW officers and likewise learn from other officers."

"I learnt the difference between herbicides and what they are best used for and why."

"This workshop was one of the most fascinating workshops I have done in the last few years and I think really relevant to expanding my (previously poor) knowledge of Indigenous cultural heritage and cultural trees."

"I have been underestimating the age of trees - they are often much older than I realised. This places a higher value on the tree as they would take so long to be replaced."

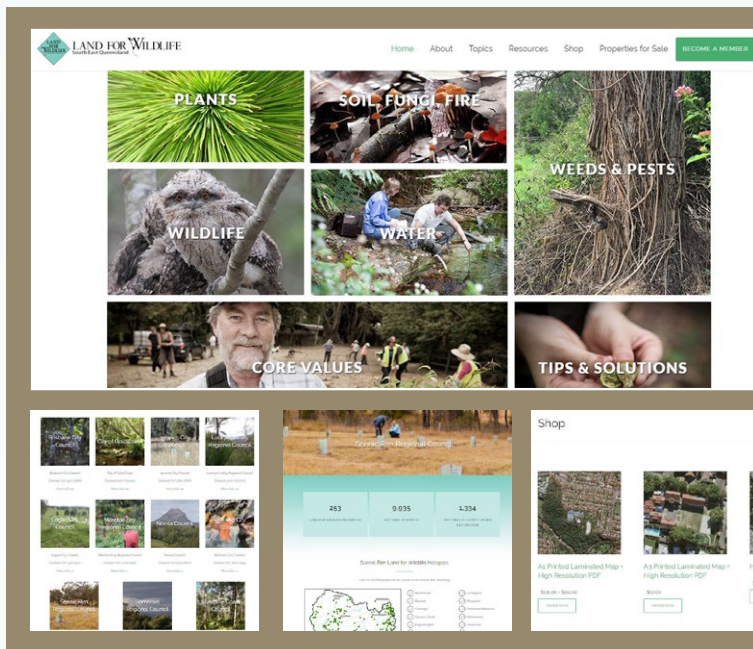


Communicating Conservation

Technical Notes

When joining the program, every Land for Wildlife member receives a set of Notes outlining the core principles of nature conservation.

Four new Notes exploring the complex topic of fire management were completed during 2016/17. A new booklet containing all 31 Notes was developed this year and brings together an extensive range of topics and land management recommendations into one easy product.



Website - www.lfwseq.org.au

In late 2016, the Land for Wildlife website was rebuilt to create a modern online platform with increased functionality to improve the users' experience.

The new site allows the public to make comment on newsletter articles, which are presented in a blog format - a function that has so far proved successful. A shop sells property maps created by Healthy Land and Water and allows Land for Wildlife members the opportunity to advertise their property for sale.

The website rebuild was funded collaboratively by Brisbane City Council, Sunshine Coast Council, Logan City Council, City of Gold Coast, Redland City Council, Scenic Rim Regional Council and Healthy Land and Water.



Rainforests of Subtropical Australia Symposium Feedback

"I'll keep doing what I'm doing on my property (via Land for Wildlife, plus NCAP & HWC grants) but with increased knowledge & passion."

"I will be investigating further the merits of conservation corridors, looking at my own Land for Wildlife network and discussing collaborative opportunities with councils."

"The symposium gave me new information to share with and hopefully inspire Land for Wildlife members."

National Forums

The National Private Land Conservation Conference (Nov 2016) and the Rainforests of Subtropical Australia Symposium (March 2017) offered forums for promotion of the Land for Wildlife South East Queensland program and networking with other conservation professionals.

Matters of National Environmental Significance

on new Land for Wildlife properties that joined the program during 2016-2017

Matters of National Environmental Significance are species and ecosystems listed under the Commonwealth's *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (1999)* - the EPBC Act.

3 EPBC-listed Ecological Communities:

Council	No. of new LfW properties containing this ecosystem	Hectares of ecosystem
Lowland Rainforest of Subtropical Australia (Critically Endangered)		
Gold Coast	5	3.6
Moreton Bay	1	1.65
Sunshine Coast	26	28.9
Swamp Tea-tree Forest (Critically Endangered)		
Logan	1	0.46
Brigalow (Endangered)		
Ipwich	1	0.12

Below: Rainforest Colouring Competition Winning Entry by Carolyn Parsons.

Note the EPBC-listed species of Pink Underwing Moth larvae, Macadamia Nut, Giant Barred Frog and Grey-headed Flying-fox.



Three properties within City of Gold Coast act as buffers (within 100 metres) of the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia World Heritage Area.

14 species of EPBC-listed Plants and Animals:

- Koala, *Phascolarctos cinereus* (Vulnerable)
- Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby, *Petrogale penicillata* (Vulnerable)
- Grey-headed Flying-fox, *Pteropus poliocephalus* (Vulnerable)
- Black-breasted Button-quail, *Turnix melanogaster* (Vulnerable)
- Giant Barred Frog, *Mixophyes iteratus* (Endangered)
- Mary River Cod, *Maccullochella mariensis* (Endangered)
- Macadamia Nut, *Macadamia integrifolia* (Vulnerable)
- Gympie Nut, *Macadamia ternifolia* (Vulnerable)
- Macadamia Nut, *Macadamia tetraphylla* (Vulnerable)
- Three-leaved Bosistoa, *Bosistoa transversa* (Vulnerable)
- Veiny Graptophyllum, *Graptophyllum reticulatum* (Endangered)
- Shiny-leaved Coondoo, *Planchonella eerwah* (Endangered)
- A herb, *Plectranthus torrenticola* (Endangered)
- A shrub, *Zieria bifida* (Endangered)

Building Confidence

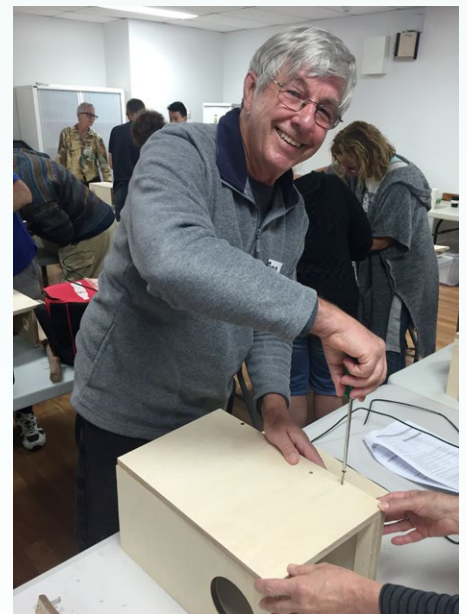
GOLD COAST



The City of Gold Coast has reassessed its suite of conservation programs to ensure that they provide meaningful support to members. When Land for Wildlife members have the knowledge, skills and confidence to manage their properties effectively and efficiently, everyone benefits.

The Gold Coast Land for Wildlife program offers:

- Regular property revisits. 140 revisits were carried out in 2016/17 and 75% of members have received site visits in the last 5 years.
- Practical incentives such as native plants, tools, herbicides, reference books, nestboxes and fauna monitoring cameras.
- A diverse calendar of workshops such as restoration, hollows, vines, native or not look-a-likes, wildlife for kids, snake awareness, field days and bird walks.
- Onsite, practical capacity development such as Conservation Officers working alongside landholders to demonstrate weed control techniques and restoration approaches in accordance with industry best practice. Not only does this build capacity but often much needed confidence!



"I want to thank you Land for Wildlife, so very much for the amazing experiences and valuable items I received last week. What a wonderful department of Gold Coast Council this is, and how fortunate are we, the recipients! I'm excited to put up the nest box and will get the herbicide for us to apply. All the information you gave as we walked around is invaluable! I'm inspired, and can't wait for the next workshop!"

"Thanks for your emails and work here the other day. I am most impressed with the Land for Wildlife program and its staff who have been so knowledgeable and professional!"

Gold Coast Land for Wildlife members.

BEFORE



AFTER



Restoring Rainforests

MORETON BAY



Tucked away in the hills of Booroobin is a tranquil Land for Wildlife property containing over 10 hectares of critically endangered Lowland Rainforest of Subtropical Australia ecosystem. Driving through the gates and winding up a narrow gravel road, one is surrounded by dense, vibrant vegetation.

A large rocky watercourse, the upper reaches of the Stanley River, flows through the northern extent of the property and provides significant habitat for the threatened Giant Barred Frog (*Mixophyes iteratus*). The property owners have removed eight hectares of woody weeds such as Lantana, Ochna, Small-leaf Privet and Chinese Elm. Over 5,000 native trees have been planted in a bid to help conserve and restore this threatened ecosystem. This story is similar to many Land for Wildlife members who are committed to conservation by revegetating and rehabilitating their properties.



Springing Back from Adversity

LOGAN



In April 2017, devastating floods brought the entire City of Logan to a standstill. The effects were far reaching, economically, socially and environmentally.

The Logan community rose from the disaster with renewed focus and vitality, and this spirit was reflected amongst the Land for Wildlife community. Friends and families got together to assist with the clean up, while around them, the bush sprung back into new life. Many properties are still replanting and controlling weeds, but the future looks bright.

During 2016/17, Logan City Council registered 22 new Land for Wildlife properties and provided Land for Wildlife members with 3,900 native plants, land management tools, 43 reference books, 109 nest boxes and over \$70,000 in grants for on-ground conservation activities.

Logan City Council directly assists over 270 landowners in managing and conserving the native flora and fauna on their properties. This equates to approximately 5,780 hectares of habitat which is the equivalent of approximately 6,880 rugby league fields.



Logan City Council's annual Land for Wildlife and Conservation Incentives Partnerships day was held at Eagleby Wetlands on 12 March 2017. The event was a great success with approximately 300 community members attending.

Attendees were treated to presentations on riparian planting and pest animals and were able to share their experiences and learn from each other. There were live wildlife exhibits, native plant sales, indigenous art activities and information on other Council programs such as pest management and sustainability.



"...it was one of the best days. We were most impressed with the displays of the properties and the opportunity to meet some of the people."

"Change of date from October has been most beneficial for planting our trees as I have just finished mine and did not have to do any watering, also the plant selection this year has been excellent."

Contributing to Research

SUNSHINE COAST



Sunshine Coast's Land for Wildlife landholders continue to play an integral role in the implementation of Council's Koala Conservation Plan. A Koala collaring program undertaken by researchers at the University of Queensland has seen the collaring and tracking of 16 Koalas from Tanawha and Witta-Reesville area. The research aims to map Koala home ranges while assessing the health of the population and their habitat requirements such as preferred trees. It will also improve knowledge of threats such as high movement areas near roads. Several Land for Wildlife landholders opened up their properties to researchers and provided them with valuable local information.

A highlight for this year on the Sunshine Coast included 15 workshops and field days for Land for Wildlife members. A range of topics were covered including revegetation, weed control techniques, tracks and trails management, water weeds, native plant identification, flying fox conservation, using wildlife monitoring cameras, Koala conservation and snake awareness.

Sunshine Coast Council's annual incentives for Land for Wildlife members resulted in 225 nest boxes being installed on 48 properties, 27 landowners receiving weed control tools and 135 property owners receiving 27,650 local native plants for revegetation projects.

Seven new Voluntary Conservation Agreements were signed this year (six covenants and one Nature Refuge), bringing the total VCA properties on the Sunshine Coast to 74, protecting 1153 ha. All were existing Land for Wildlife members. Significant species on these properties include Black-breasted Button-quail, Koala, Maroochy Nut (*Macadamia ternifolia*), Toothed Kamala (*Mallotus megadontus*) and Richmond Birdwing Vine (*Pararistolochia praevenosa*).

Fauna monitoring cameras were deployed by Land for Wildlife Officers on properties throughout the Sunshine Coast region and have provided some great insights for landholders about the cryptic wildlife on their properties.



Land for Wildlife landowner at Perwillowen planting native trees with her grand-daughter.



Integrating Grazing

IPSWICH

In July 2016, a 2000 hectare property at Mt Mort, known as Aroona, joined the Land for Wildlife program. The property was generously donated to the Queensland Trust for Nature (QTFN) in 2015 and is now one of QTFN's reserves. Extensive work has been undertaken by QTFN to map habitats and implement restoration activities.

Aroona demonstrates that cattle grazing and conservation can co-exist on agricultural land. Stock are used as a land management tool to control weeds, manage fire risk and generate income to fund property management. Aroona provides habitat for a range of threatened species, including the Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby.



Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby habitat on Aroona.



Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby scats.

During 2016/17, Ipswich City Council commenced a new program, the Ipswich Koala Conservation Partnership. It aims to build partnerships with landholders on properties within important Koala corridors to improve linkages between Council conservation estates. Extra incentives are offered to landholders including payments for predator exclusion fencing. Land for Wildlife members are eligible to be a part of this new program.



Maureen Hall and Ruth Lewis from the Ipswich Koala Protection Society (IKPS) were the first landholders to join the Ipswich Koala Conservation Partnership program. Photo taken on the IKPS property at Mt Forbes

Adventure Parks and *Community-owned Refuges*

In 2016/17, Scenic Rim Regional Council registered 20 new Land for Wildlife properties resulting in over 400 hectares of habitat being assisted through the program. Scenic Rim Regional Council offers Environmental Grants to Land for Wildlife members with worthy conservation or restoration projects. Conservation Agreements are also available for high conservation properties with rate relief offered as an outcome.

This year a property owned by the community group, Bulimba Creek Catchment Coordinating Committee, or B4C for short, joined the Land for Wildlife program. This property adjoins Mt Barney National Park and is registered as a Nature Refuge called "Bartopia".

This high altitude property is on Yamahra Creek that drains into Barney Creek and the Logan River. It has spectacular views of the Mt Barney complex and contains 76 hectares of bushland - mainly open forest with some creek vegetation. The main geology is sandstone, lifted up by the Focal Peak Volcano about 25 million years ago. Overlying volcanic rocks have eroded away leaving some very old sandstones exposed. This property has a variety of wildlife including Glossy Black Cockatoos and Koalas.

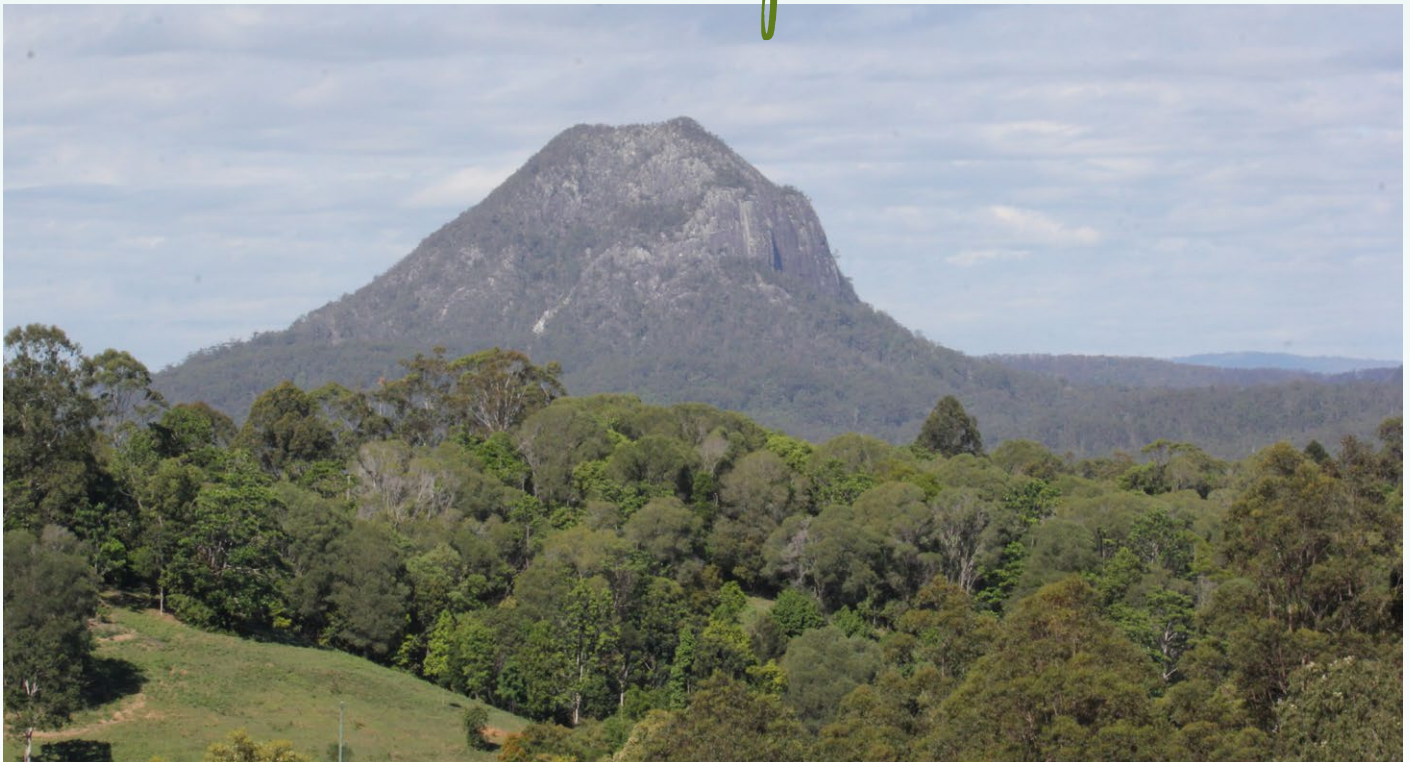
Another large new Land for Wildlife property is the Scenic Rim Adventure Park. It is a four-wheel drive and camping park that also conserves wildlife. The 190 hectares of bushland provides a range of habitats that hold considerable wildlife values. This property has a large area of dry vine scrub that manages to thrive, even though it is surrounded by dry sandstone ranges. At various times of the season, Grey-headed Flying Foxes turn up to camp there too. No doubt, Koalas would be resident as well. The owners have appreciated the advice that comes with a Land for Wildlife registration, particularly a strategic approach to weed management.

SCENIC RIM



Revitalising Partnerships

NOOSA



In 2017 Noosa Council renewed its commitment to the Land for Wildlife program with the new Council signing the Memorandum of Understanding with Healthy Land and Water.

Noosa Council is looking forward to developing stronger community links and the appointment of a Community Partnerships Officer will help make this a reality. Private land conservation is still strong on the Noosa community's agenda with the Community Partnerships Officer undertaking several Land for Wildlife revisits and registering two new properties.

The nationally threatened Key's Boronia (*Boronia keysii*) was found in flower on a Noosa Land for Wildlife property. This extremely rare shrub is only known from 15 populations within the Cooloola region near Lake Cootharaba. It grows on sandy soils as an understorey plant in eucalypt forests. Thankfully the owners of the property with this rare plant are committed to its conservation and are pleased to be a part of the Land for Wildlife network.



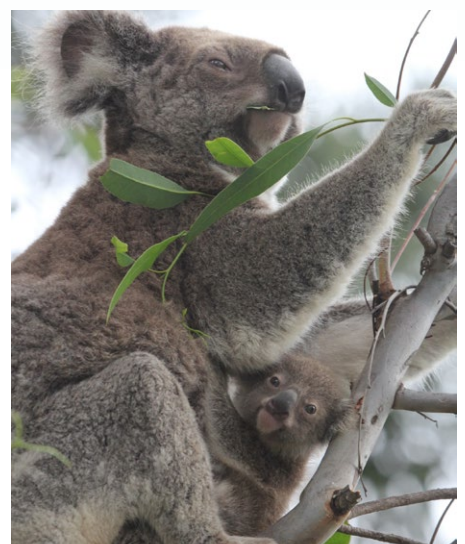
The extremely rare Key's Boronia - known from only 15 locations in Noosa.

SOMERSET

The Somerset Land for Wildlife program continues to grow with 10 new properties joining Land for Wildlife during 2016/17. They range from a small two hectare property at Sandy Creek near Bellthorpe National Park through to a 60 hectare grazing property north of Esk. Council offers Land for Wildlife members a selection of free native plants for revegetation projects as well as feed trees for Koalas.

LOCKYER VALLEY

During 2016/17, Lockyer Valley Regional Council continued to support select Land for Wildlife properties in the headwaters of creeks to control priority weeds, namely Cat's Claw Creeper and Madeira Vine. Through the Lockyer Valley Land for Wildlife Landholder Assistance Program, these invasive weeds have received annual treatments over the last few years and progress is finally showing in some areas. This Assistance Program also supports the revegetation of waterways to stabilise creek banks and prevent soil erosion, an activity that has far reaching benefits downstream.



All Properties Big & Small

BRISBANE



"It is a great program run by great and passionate bunch of people that motivate us land holders which creates a worthwhile legacy for future generations."

"Our learning curve has provided an increasing satisfaction with the results of the program, and the resulting improvement in wildlife habitat. Working with the LfW officers has been a pleasure. We next hope to see neighbours abandoning their ride-on mowers and planting more habitat."

"Really value the staff and their commitment to educate and inspire. Events are also useful to keep in touch and conservation top of mind."

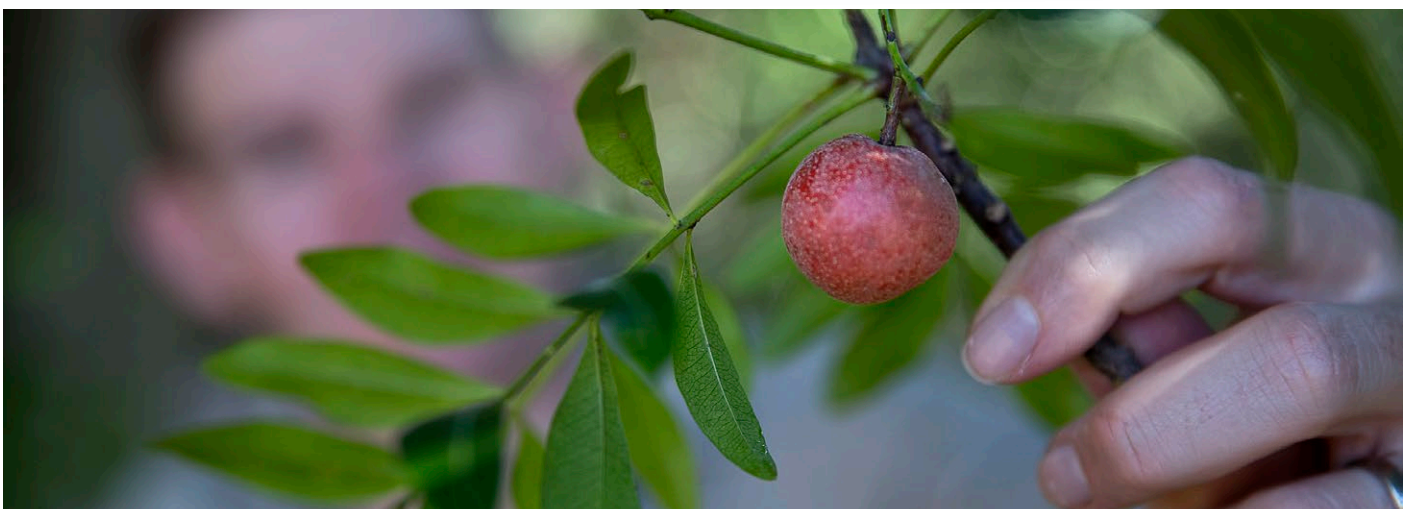
The Brisbane Land for Wildlife program had a successful year in 2016/17 registering 46 new Land for Wildlife properties. This brings the total number of Land for Wildlife properties in Brisbane to 677.

Five Brisbane City Council Conservation Partnerships Officers manage this growing membership base. Impressively, they conducted 612 visits to Land for Wildlife properties during this year. Understandably, some properties were visited multiple times to assist with project work, monitoring on-ground activities or to drop off equipment.

Over 13,000 native plants were supplied to Land for Wildlife properties. In addition, 30 Land for Wildlife properties received support to the total value of \$245,000 through the Community Conservation Assistance Program - delivering significant investment into on-ground conservation activities.



The importance of supporting small acreage properties for conservation was confirmed with the registration of a new one hectare Land for Wildlife property at Karana Downs. It contains two species of threatened plant - Lloyds Olive (*Notellea lloydii*) and Swamp Tea-Tree (*Melaleuca irbyana*).

The high profile Brisbane Entertainment Centre at Boondall also joined Land for Wildlife this year to gain advice and support on the management on their 30 hectare property. This property protects an uncommon mixed eucalypt ecosystem (Regional Ecosystem 12.3.11) that is virtually absent from public reserves and parks throughout SEQ.



Land for Wildlife South East Queensland is proudly supported by:



-  New LfW Properties 2016-17
-  All other LfW Properties

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