

WILDLIFE DIARY

July 2015

Great Finds

A Greater Glider, *Petauroides Volans* was seen in the Greater Glider Reserve.

Southern boobook, *Ninox novaeseelandiae*, have been very vocal, some calling well into the early morning.

Coral Fungus, *Ramaria gracilis*, found at Bunya Mountains.

Population

During history there has been much conflict over use of water from rivers such as the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. One area of concern is Pakistan. Their storage capacity is limited to a 30-day supply, well below the recommended 1,000 days for countries with a similar climate. Pakistan's population growth has been high, averaging an annual rate of just over 2.5 percent. The per capita availability of water in Pakistan has decreased from 5,260 cubic meters in 1951 to roughly 1,040 in 2010, a decline of more than 400 percent. Globally conflicts over water are likely to increase as our human population grows climate change impacts upon water availability and our management of water remains poor.

NAFI

The NAFI site displays maps of fire activity based on information from satellites, such as hotspots (locations of recently burning fires) and fire scars (maps of recently burnt country). <http://www.firenorth.org.au/nafi3/>

The value of Casuarinas

Casuarina equisetifolia was officially described by Linnaeus in 1759 as *Casuarina equisetifolia*. A type was designated by New South Wales botanist Lawrie Johnson in 1989. The specific name *equisetifolia* is derived from the Latin *equisetum*, meaning "horse hair" (referring to the resemblance of the drooping branchlets to horse tail). These trees are valuable as they assist with erosion control and make great wind breaks. Their wonderful shade, the soft matting of needles on the ground and the soothing wind through their branches are a natural chloroform making them a great place to take a nap.

Did you Know?

Did you know that you can exchange your weeds for free native trees in the Redlands? Swap a bag of weeds for a FREE native plant at Indigiscapes (17 Runneymede Road, Capalaba) during Trees for Weed Day between 9am – 12pm on Saturday the 1st of August, 2015.

Did you know that you can join in the fun of National Tree Day and help plant 3000 native habitat plants along Tingalpa Creek? Date/time: Sunday, July 26, 2015, 9 – 11am. Where? Tingalpa Creek Conservation Corridor, Catherine St, Birkdale, UBD Ref. Map 184 A3.

Did you know Clams Inspired New Joining System? Queensland inventor Dean Cameron has developed a new joining system that replaces screws, bolts, glue, flanges and nails. The Joinlox system is likened to "industrial velcro" and can be used for products ranging from food crates and pipes to cars, planes and bridges. Cameron was announced as a finalist in Innovic's International Next Big Thing Award 2009. <http://biomimicry.net/about/>

Great Walks



Interesting geology and geomorphological features are seldom mentioned though we are blessed with many. Green Island is a vegetated coral cay, the nearest similar island is found 1,200 km North within the Great Barrier Reef. A sand dune can be found within the Pinklands Bushland Reserve, a relic of past sea level rise. The sand spit on Coochiemudlo Island forming seaward of Curlew Creek is active and advancing, it's unique within Moreton Bay and of great educational value. The wetlands behind Flinders Beach on North Stradbroke Island formed during the last sea level retreat. We are not only blessed with beautiful landscapes they also speaks volumes about past climates. Why not take time out to learn more about them.

Web Sites

WPSQ Coastal Community Science
<http://wpsqccs.wordpress.com/>

Advocating for good governance
<http://redlands2030.net/>

don' t adopt The SEENEY Plan

It is a shame that with the sound beating dealt out to the pro-development anti-environment LNP government the Council and State Government seem set to adopt the planning scheme promoted by the LNP. This is a plan developed under the Minister for Infrastructure and Planning of Queensland, Mr. Seeney.

In essence unless the State Government and Council change tack they will be adopting the Seeney Plan.

This is a plan that said remove sea level change from planning. [Jeff Seeney orders council to remove sea levels reference from regional plan](#)

Source: <http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/queensland/jeff-seeney-orders-council-to-remove-sea-levels-reference-from-regional-plan-20141210-123zag.html>

This is despite the science showing sea levels are rising faster than ever and are a real threat to coastal communities. <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-05-12/sea-level-rise-accelerates-faster-in-past-20-years/6461752>

Whose interests was the LNP Plan protecting, the community or a few individuals?

The science shows koalas are on a rapid decline to extinction.

The results of the 2008 Koala Coast koala survey estimates a population of 2279 animals. Based on the population estimate of 4611 koalas in 2005-2006, this represents a 51% decline in less than three years and a 64% decline in the 10 years since the original 1996 -1999 estimate of 6246 koalas. The full report can be found here.

https://wildlifebayside.files.wordpress.com/2015/02/decline_of_the_koala_coast_koala_population_status_in_2008.pdf

Despite the science the LNP encouraged urban expansion into koala habitat.

The LNP also said it wouldn't interfere with local planning but our own council said this wasn't the case. Some council credit the removal of the LNP government as a direct result of the LNP pro-development interfering style. [From the Sunshine Coast: "It is clear the Premier, Campbell Newman, and Deputy Premier Jeff Seeney wading into local planning matters and not listening to the community had a serious impact on the election outcome."](#)

So it begs the question. If Queenslanders despise the LNP planning style why then do the State Government and Redland Council seem set to adopt the Seeney Plan?

Never doubt that a small, group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

- *Margaret Mead*



Published by
Wildlife Preservation Society of Qld
Bayside Branch
P.O. Box 427 CAPALABA Q 4157
bayside@wildlife.org.au

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