



SEQ RAINFOREST RECOVERY NEWS

Newsletter of the World Wide Fund For Nature Australia (WWF)
South East Queensland Rainforest Recovery project.

Bushcare

Issue No.5

December 1999

Welcome to the fifth edition of the 'SEQ Rainforest Recovery News', the newsletter of the WWF SEQ Rainforest Recovery project. SEQ Rainforest Recovery News will be published every 3 months, keeping you up to date with the progress of this innovative and critically important rainforest conservation project.

The rainforests of SEQ are very bio-diverse, and have a high number of rare and threatened plants and animals. Several regional rainforest ecosystems are listed as endangered and of-concern, a disturbing reality in the SEQ bioregion. Some of these ecosystems have as little as 0.01% remaining of the pre-clearing extent (MacDonald *et al.* 1999).

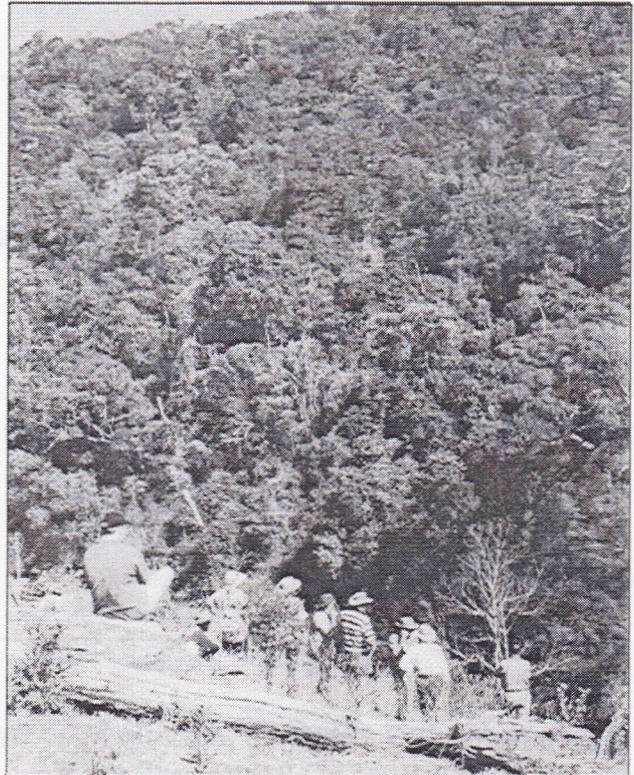
This is the reality the rainforest Recovery project has to deal with but through the Rainforest Recovery Team and the delivery of the Rainforest Ecosystem Recovery Plans for SEQ we hope rainforest decline will be curtailed, and more of these fantastic ecosystems will remain intact, with their ecological processes and functions still in place.

This issue of SEQ Rainforest Recovery News features introductory articles about the new project, staff and the rainforest recovery team. Included is information about the Landholder Assistance scheme, through which landholders may gain assistance for on-ground works e.g. weed and fire management, to improve the status of their rainforest remnants.

Your contributions to SEQ Rainforest Recovery News, and to the project are very welcome. We look forward to working with you to secure a brighter future for

these uniquely SEQ rainforests and their many endemic species.

'Of - Concern', Semi Evergreen Vine Thicket, In Good Hands...



Walkers Rainforest, Lockyer Valley see article inside.

Please note the project's new address:

PO Box 42, Kenmore, Qld, 4069

ph: 3202 0251 fax: 3202 6844

Inside...

◆ Call for Landholder Assistance Applications ◆ New Rainforest Recovery project, staff and recovery team introduced ◆ Conservation Agreements explained - Land for Wildlife profile

Contents...

- 3 **A New Approach to Recovery Planning**
- 4 **Call for Landholder Assistance Applications**
- 5 **Introducing the New Staff**
- 7 **A Welcome Return, Rainforest Recovery, We're Back**
- 8 **Rainforest Species, Community, and Ecosystem Recovery**
- 11 **The Role of the New Rainforest Recovery Team**
- 13 **Introduction to the New Team**
- 14 **Rainforest Recovery Admin person wanted**
- 14 **Mailing List Form**
- 15 **Rainforest Recovery in the Lockyer**
- 16 **Rainforest Naturalists**
- 17 **Macadamia Industry Support Continues**
- 18 **Conservation Agreements, what are they all about? - Land for Wildlife Profile**
- 21 **You Want To Learn More About Rainforest?**
 - Proposed Seminar of the Vegetative Propagation of Rainforest Trees
 - Vineforests Plant Identification Workshop

This issue of *SEQ Rainforest Recovery News* was produced by WWF SEQ Rainforest Recovery Conservation Officer, Keryn Hyslop with valuable assistance from the Rainforest Recovery Team and Rob Kooyman. Thankyou.

Contributors to this issue

Bruce Boyes, Doug and Lyn Cook, Rob Kooyman, Malcolm Petrie, Dr John Swarbreck and Shirley Walker. Thankyou.

Cover Picture

Remnant rainforest, 'of-concern' Semi Evergreen Vine Thicket (RE 12.9/10.15), at the Walker's property, Lockyer Valley. Thanks to the insight and efforts of the Walkers this very special rainforest is safe for future generations to enjoy.

Contributions, Mailing List, Contact Information

Contributions to *SEQ Rainforest Recovery News* are very welcome. As well as articles, photographs, and newspaper clippings, keep us informed of your coming rainforest events for the events calendar. Send articles preferably on disk in Microsoft Word 6.0 or 7.0 or typed or neatly handwritten if you do not have access to a computer.

SEQ Rainforest Recovery News is distributed free of charge to our mailing list. To add your name to the mailing list please complete and return the form in this newsletter.

Please forward all correspondence to:

SEQ Rainforest Recovery

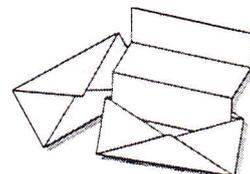
PO Box 42

Kenmore Qld 4069

Phone: 07 3202 0251

Fax: 07 3202 6844

Email: keryn.hyslop@env.qld.gov.au



WWF Membership:

For membership information write to:

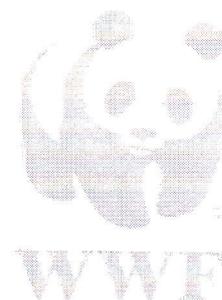
WWF GPO Box 528

Sydney NSW 2001 Or

call Sydney (02) 9281 5515

WWF Web Site:

<http://www.wwf.org.au>



A New Approach to Recovery Planning

Past SEQ Rainforest Recovery project officer, Bruce Boyes, now involved in threat based recovery in the Lockyer Valley, introduces the new project.

“Recovery planning” is the recognised process for bringing threatened species back from the brink of extinction. Operating under the *Commonwealth Endangered Species Protection Act 1992*, recovery planning is being used successfully across Australia to arrest the decline of numerous threatened plant and animal species.

Recovery planning draws together a “recovery team” of the people associated with the conservation of a particular species, which includes landholders, scientists, community group members, and government officers. The recovery team then prepares and implements a “recovery plan”. The recovery plan is a comprehensive plan that details, schedules and costs all of the actions that are necessary to bring a threatened species back from the brink of extinction.

So far, recovery planning has taken a single-species approach, and in many cases this approach will be the best. However, in areas where there are a large number of threatened species, establishing recovery teams and recovery plans for every single species would be impractical and expensive. For example, in the rainforests of the Gold Coast and Hinterland there are over 40 endangered and vulnerable plant species. With single-species approach, at least 40 recovery teams and recovery plans would be needed, which would be a huge drain on the already stretched resources of landholders, community groups and government.

Recognising the limitations of single-species recovery planning, Environment Australia is initiating two new recovery planning approaches:

- The multiple-species approach.
- The threat-based approach.

With the multiple-species approach, the focus is on the conservation of the ecosystem that hosts the threatened species, rather than on the individual species themselves. Actions focussed on conserving the whole ecosystem can be far more efficient and

cost effective because all of the threatened species in an ecosystem will be facing a range of common threats, such as clearance and weed invasion. The ecosystem itself may also be a threatened Regional Ecosystem (RE) and need conservation in its own right.

WWF leads the way

The World Wide Fund For Nature (WWF) *South East Queensland (SEQ) Rainforest Recovery* project is pioneering the ecosystem recovery approach in Queensland. The rainforests of the South-East Queensland bioregion have a high concentration of threatened rainforest plants and animals, particularly plants, and for this reason are a high priority for conservation action. Indeed, more than one-third of all of Queensland’s endangered plants are found in South-East Queensland’s rainforests. A number of threatened fauna species also depend on these threatened rainforest habitats, including the Black-breasted Button Quail, Coxen’s Fig Parrot, the Richmond Birdwing Butterfly, the Nangur Skink, and several rainforest frogs.

The *South East Queensland Rainforest Recovery* project has a two-tiered approach:

1. Conservation assessment and priority-setting at the bioregional level, carried out by a bioregional rainforest recovery team.
2. Conservation action planning at the local level, carried out by district recovery implementation teams. Some of the districts for the first year are the Lockyer Valley, Ipswich, Gayndah/Mundubbera, and the Gold Coast and Hinterland.

The two-tiered approach is aimed at overcoming the shortcomings of bottom-up and top-down approaches. “Bottom-up” conservation approaches maximise community ownership over the decision-making process, but unfortunately often fail to address priority conservation issues or to deliver meaningful outcomes. On the other hand, “top-down” approaches often result in a community backlash because they have ignored the rights, needs and concerns of landholders.

The New Crew...

Rob Kooyman and Keryn Hyslop have taken over the helm of the South-East Queensland Rainforest Recovery Project, and I wish them every success

in developing this innovative project. I have moved on to attempt to implement Environment Australia's other new recovery planning approach, the "threat-based" approach, and to develop other new approaches to nature conservation decision making. The "Lockyer Valley Threat-based Recovery Project" will shortly be underway as the result of a successful application to the Threatened Species Network (TSN) Community Grants Program. ❀

Thanks and Recognition

To Bruce Boyes, Mike Gregory and Siobhan Bland for their past work on the SEQ Rainforest Recovery project and for their foresight, resulting in the submission of a successful application which has allowed this new phase of the project to continue.

Bruce and Mike continue their support and involvement in the project through their new roles, Bruce's work in the Lockyer links in very closely with Lockyer Rainforest Recovery and Mike's work through the Threatened Species Network also integrates well with the ecosystem recovery work of the Rainforest Recovery project.

Cupaniopsis tomentella,
illustrated by Janet Hauser.



Rainforest Recovery For the New Millennium Conference Proceedings, now available!

Packed with the latest information about Rainforest Recovery: Community involvement in Recovery Planning; The Changing Role of Government in Threatened Species Conservation; Rainforest Recovery as a Metaphor for Human Recovery; The Role of Local Government in Rainforest Recovery; Conservation and Education through Eco-tourism; and lots more...

Cost per book \$25.00

For your copy, call SEQ Rainforest Recovery 07 3202 0251.

Call for 'Landholder Assistance' Applications.

SEQ Rainforest Recovery Landholder Assistance Applications are now open.

Landholders are invited and encouraged to submit an application to gain assistance from SEQ Rainforest Recovery, to manage their remnant rainforest.

Assistance is subject to approval by the SEQ Rainforest Recovery Team and may include:

- fencing materials;
- weed and fire management;
- technical advice; and
- conservation agreement facilitation.

How do I apply?

1. Complete an application (available form SEQ Rainforest Recovery). If you would like assistance in completing the application form, please do not hesitate to contact the WWF project officers.
2. Send your completed application from to the address provided on the form and below.

Application closing dates:

- 31st December 1999 &
- 31st March 2000.

Applications received after these dates will still be viewed favourably.

For further information or to gain an Application form, please contact the WWF project officers:

SEQ Rainforest Recovery
P.O. Box 42 Kenmore, Q 4069
ph: 07 3202 0251 fax: 07 3202 6844
email: keryn.hyslop@env.qld.gov.au

Introducing the new WWF Rainforest Recovery Staff

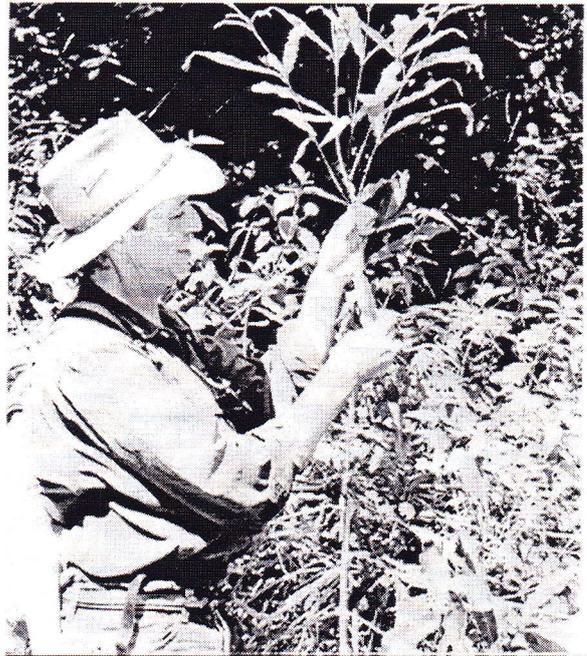
Rainforest Information Officer

Robert **K**ooyman has taken on the role of WWF Rainforest Recovery Information Officer for this stage of the projects development. Many of you will know Rob from his many visits to SEQ to present at field days, conferences, and other rainforest and forestry related get togethers. You may also be familiar with, and may even have used, his rainforest restoration publication. The following is a very brief history of his working life in the forests. Prior to this he was farming..... but still within a forest setting and with involvement in forestry management.

Robert Kooyman worked in the forests of northern New South Wales with State Forests of NSW for over twenty- two years. First in the Murwillumbah Management Area (MA) as a Forest Ranger, and then in the Northern Rivers Region MA as a field ecologist (flora and fauna research).

During that time he studied and completed a considerable body of research on rainforest botany and ecology, and was involved with large scale restoration ecology projects, and the development of community conservation initiatives. His career in forestry seemed to follow the development of the great forest conservation debate wherever it went, beginning with the Border Ranges and Terania Creek and ending formally (just recently) with the delivery of the Regional Forest Agreements for the upper north east of NSW.

His previous position involved the application of the Conservation Protocol Survey Designs in pre and post logging flora and fauna assessments, and the regions ecological research. This involved extensive surveys and distribution mapping for rare and threatened species (flora and fauna), and the delivery of baseline data and



Rob Kooyman, Rainforest Recovery Officer

recovery actions for threatened and endangered species.

Through the assistance of Greening Australia Qld and State Forests NSW he published (1996) the book 'Growing Rainforest' - *Rainforest Restoration and Regeneration. Recommendations for the humid sub-tropical region of northern New South Wales and south east Queensland.*

He is looking forward to assisting with the development of ecosystem recovery guidelines for the drier vine forest ecosystems, and assisting the SEQ community develop strategies to secure the future of these remnant forest areas. As he was heard to say recently, "I have many friends and contacts in SEQ and have always been inspired by the community initiatives and interest in rainforest restoration in the region. I am delighted to be able to assist the development of these community initiatives and look forward to renewing contacts and meeting and learning from the many local people involved in rainforest recovery actions." *

Rainforest Conservation Officer

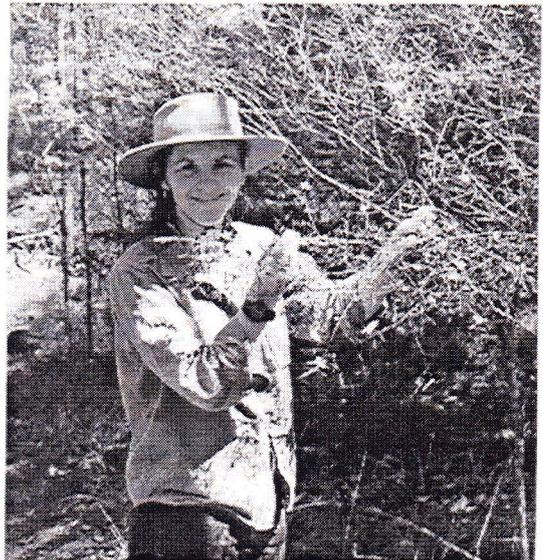
Keryn Hyslop is the new SEQ Rainforest Recovery Conservation Officer. She has worked in the nature conservation field for approximately ten years and has a strong love and interest in the Australian environment and has varied experience in community nature conservation and vegetation management.

Keryn's work with the environment began as a volunteer planting trees to combat erosion and provide habitat with a local conservation organisation. Later Keryn took up a position as Volunteer /Nursery Coordinator for their bush regeneration nursery and began working with Greening Australia as a commercial planter.

After completing studies in horticulture, Keryn achieved a long time goal of working in Toohey Forest, which comprises beautiful sandstone flora in the heart of Brisbane. During this time she worked for Griffith University as a landscape assistant and was involved in nursery work, bush regeneration and the landscaping of the building site, with local plant material often gained through plant rescues from the development sites.

After learning some of the tricks of the bush regeneration trade in Brisbane, her interest was ignited and she sought work as a bush regenerator in Sydney, where it all began in the 70's. Keryn received a job as a bush regenerator with a team in North Sydney Council whose work was based around Sydney Harbour. The team worked to regenerate the remnant and highly diverse and spectacular Sydney sandstone flora.

On her return to Brisbane, she began working with Greening Australia Queensland (GAQ) as Volunteer Manager and for the last few years has recruited, trained and coordinated hundreds of volunteers, to conserve native vegetation through bush regeneration, seed collection, planting and plant rescue activities. She is also an advocate for practising nature conservation in your own back yard and has developed and been a teacher of bush friendly garden design and construction workshops.



Keryn Hyslop, Rainforest Conservation Officer

Keryn is delighted to have the opportunity to meet and work with a such a diverse range of people and rainforests types throughout SEQ and looks forward to assisting in bringing about better conservation, understanding and management of these inspiring forests. *

New SEQ Rainforest Recovery contact details

SEQ Rainforest Recovery's office, *previously based at 160 Ann St, Brisbane, and postal address PO Box 155, Brisbane, Albert St, Qld 4022, ph: 3245 5969 fax: 3227 6386* has now changed.

The project is now based at Priors Pocket Road, Moggill in Brisbane.

New Contact details are:

PO Box 42, Kenmore, Qld, 4069

ph: 3202 0251 **fax:** 3202 6844

email: Keryn Hyslop -

keryn.hyslop@env.qld.gov.au

Rob Kooyman - ecodingo@mullum.com.au

A Welcome Return! Rainforest Recovery, We're Back...

Rainforest Information Officer, Rob Kooyman explains the new project and recovery direction...

Combine the following ingredients: some hard work by World Wide Fund For Nature Australia's (WWF) Queensland Program Manager, the achievements of the previous WWF Rainforest Recovery staff and project, another round of National Heritage Trust Bushcare funding, support from the Australian Macadamia Society, the Horticultural Research and Development Corporation, Queensland Environmental Protection Agency, and other agencies,add a few new faces, a SEQ Rainforest Ecosystem Recovery Team, a dash of unrestrained enthusiasm and we're back!

WWF is proud to announce the beginning of another round of assistance to landholders seeking to be involved in this community based rainforest ecosystem recovery and conservation effort. Through this project we are seeking to secure the future of SEQs rainforest ecosystems, and the many significant, threatened, vulnerable, and endangered species therein.

The project will be guided by both local community knowledge and the recently appointed SEQ Rainforest Recovery Team, whose talented and dedicated members are seeking to make real progress in the development of Rainforest Ecosystem Recovery Planning and on-ground conservation actions. (*Refer to article in this newsletter introducing the Recovery Team*).

If we, as a community in SEQ, are to succeed in arresting the decline of many of our rainforest species, communities, and ecosystems, and turn that effort into a bioregional (landscape scale)

recovery process, we must work together. Community involvement forms not just the basis of this project - "community involvement is the project!"

Setting aside all the other reasons to promote community involvement in the rainforest recovery project one set of figures alone make it an imperative. That is, of the pre-clearing extent of approximately 665,000 ha of rainforest and associated drier vine forest communities in South-East Queensland, somewhere around 276,000 ha remain (1995 figures). With only 44,000 ha in the reserve system, the remainder occurs on a variety of tenures, including significant areas on private property.

Rainforest conservation efforts therefore don't just need to appeal to the community for assistance / involvement, they are dependent upon it!

"of the pre-clearing extent of approximately 665,000 ha of rainforest and associated drier vine forest communities in SEQ, somewhere around 276,000 ha remain, with only 44,000 in the reserve system"

Background

In 1991 WWF funded a Queensland Herbarium study of the SEQ Bioregion Vineforests. A total of 232 sites were studied with around 25% of those found to have high conservation values, primarily for plant species. Doubtless if fauna species had been included in

the surveys the number of significant sites would increase substantially. The results of this study were published as *The Vineforest Atlas for SEQ, Forster, Bostock, Bird, and Bean, 1991*.

In 1996 WWF instigated a follow up project based on the findings of the Vineforest Atlas surveys, and targeted a number of the most significant rainforest areas and remnants for conservation and recovery planning and actions.

Increased landholder, community, and government awareness and involvement in vineforest management and conservation led to more support from the then Qld Department

of Environment and facilitated the development of a close working relationship with the (now named) Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Threatened Species and Ecosystems Unit (TSEU).

The EPA's involvement and support is a key factor in the project and WWF thanks the EPA for its substantial and ongoing support of these conservation initiatives.

Rainforest Species, Community, and Ecosystem Recovery

Planning for a future full of uncertainty, and packed with threats. Is it time to panic... or time to plan... and act ?? R. Kooyman

Like human communities, forest communities are facing an uncertain future. We know from our own societal and community responses to tough or uncertain times that the best way to lessen the impacts of change (and the 'tough times') is to have some stores on hand. These additional stores can buffer us from the ravages of lean times and soften the blows associated with change.

We need natural and intellectual stores, as well as resources and commodities, to allow our human community to sustain itself and grow richer in the values we choose (to impose). We also understand, at least in principle, that to survive into the future we need to apply ecologically sustainable development principles to all of our economic pursuits and endeavours.

A natural community/ecosystem also needs a store or source of resources to sustain itself, survive change, and to continue evolutionary significant processes. The impacts of human land allocation and management have severely reduced the area and extent of a number of SEQ's rainforest ecosystems. Worse still these

ecosystems have, in many cases, been severely fragmented, further impacting on ecosystem function and reducing the essential ecological 'stores', interactions, and processes.

The consequence is widespread ecosystem decline, necessitating the 'listing' of a number of rainforest ecosystems as critically endangered. The ramifications of ecosystem decline generally follow a recognisable pattern of community simplification, localised species loss, and even species extinctions.

As a community we must then ask ourselves some critical questions- are species extinctions and the loss of unique community level associations a price we are willing to pay in pursuit of human interest?... and if not, just what are we willing to do, and to pay, to secure the long term future of these rainforest ecosystems, and the individual and communities of organisms therein?

Unless decisive and well directed action is taken now to conserve the remaining areas of rainforest and associated drier vine forests, we will lose species. Locally, many species which were once part of the rainforest biota in these forest communities are now absent in many areas. Localised declines and community simplification through species loss is already occurring. Localised extinctions continue to accumulate, and a number of species of flora and fauna stand at the brink of total extinction, for example Coxen's fig parrot is listed as Endangered and may be close to extinction.

The ecosystem recovery approach

The strategy for implementation of the SEQ Rainforest Recovery Project has undergone progressive development phases and has continued to evolve as more becomes known, and our understanding of ecosystem and landscape scale ecological processes, has increased.

Over the next few years we will seek to explore the literature and current research

which can inform and fine tune the project, and help deliver the conservation outcomes we are determined to secure. This will involve extensive community interaction and communication, and will recognise the critical role of landholders, the broader community, and local rainforest enthusiasts, in providing the 'local knowledge' aspects of ecosystem recovery planning and the implementation of on-ground conservation actions.

In future editions of the SEQ Rainforest Recovery Newsletter we will investigate and share with you, the readers, what we have learned about ecosystem level recovery planning and implementation, and profile some of the many inspirational community efforts in this field.

Developing Recovery Project Priorities

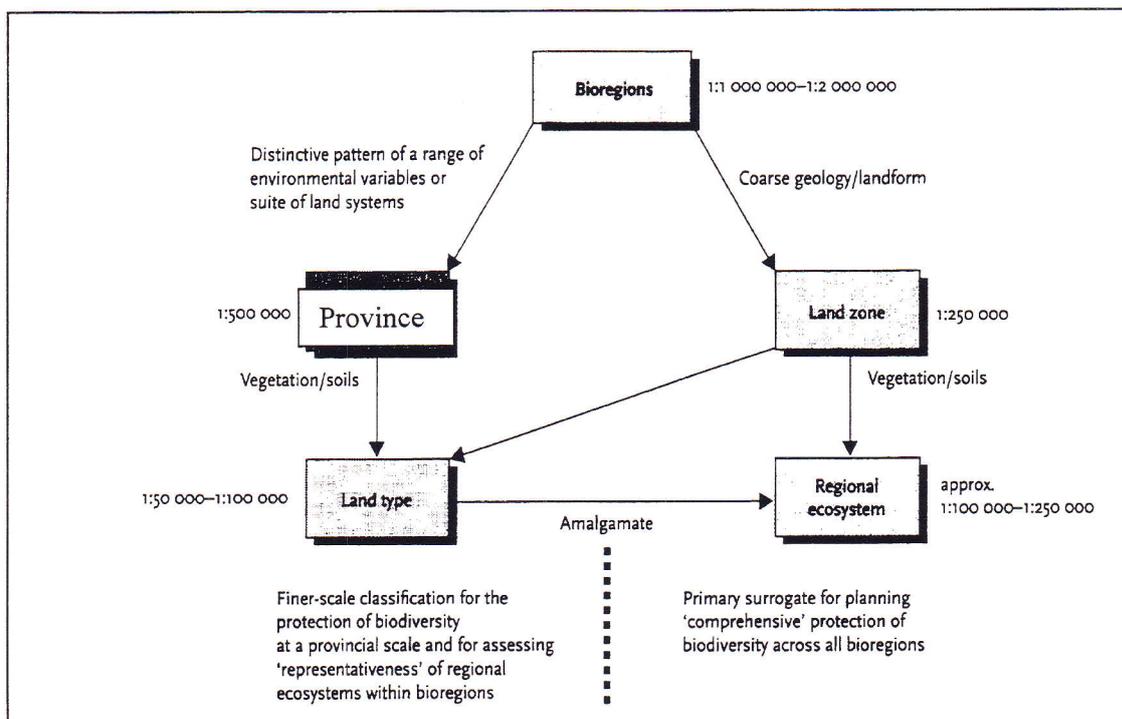
The process of developing priorities and ecosystem recovery targets is rich with variables. The key questions confronting the Recovery Team at the beginning of the project were:

- how will we define our priority rainforest ecosystems for recovery? and
- at what scale should we define the landscape and environmental characteristics, and study the ecological processes of our nominated ecosystems?

As a starting point the Recovery Team has endorsed the adoption of the Bioregional Ecosystem approach outlined in Sattler and Williams, 1999 (*The Conservation Status of Queensland's Bioregional Ecosystems*). In this publication the classification of Queensland's Regional Ecosystems has been derived by combining three major attributes:

1. Landscape patterns as described by nominated bioregions, and at a finer scale by provinces;
2. Geology, landform, soils and
3. Vegetation (Sattler and Williams, 1999)

However, the Recovery Team recognises the limitations of such studies for our purposes, particularly in regard to problems of scale where that scale may currently be coarse and require refinement. The subsequent interaction of the various layers of information/data in the modelling.



Landscape classification showing derivation of regional ecosystems and land types. Sattler, P. and Williams, R.D. (eds) (1999). *The Conservation Status of Qld's Bioregional Ecosystems*.

Fortunately the assessments and supporting information have been further refined / synthesised in McDonald, Young and Watson, 1999 (Distribution and Status of the Rainforest Communities of South-East Queensland).

This will generally provide the base-line for the project, and will be further refined by province specific lists of endangered, vulnerable, rare and significant flora and fauna being compiled by several members of the Recovery Team.

These provinces help to define landscape pattern at a finer level of resolution, wherein ecosystems which are secure and well represented in one province may be threatened and have unique floristic associations, or critical habitat, or restricted endemic species, or occur on unique substrates, in another.

It is at the finer levels of resolution that these more specific distribution patterns become apparent and their relevance to the process of defining conservation priorities for this project becomes clearer. For example, this may result in the inclusion in the project of some areas / remnants of the wetter rainforest types which are poorly conserved in one or other province and which have endangered / restricted endemic species or other features of high conservation significance.

The relationship between provinces and their distinguishing attributes is still being tested but the indications are that the conservation of regional ecosystems across their range of distribution at the province level, is one way of capturing the potential variation at finer scales (Sattler and Williams, 1999).

The federal government, through Environment Australia, is currently ranking ecosystems for possible recovery actions by listing the most endangered/threatened ecosystems under the *Endangered Species Protection Act 1992*. This will further refine our criteria for establishing ecosystem recovery priorities for the WWF SEQ Rainforest Recovery project (Van der Gragt, pers comm, 1999).

The Recovery Team has agreed that in general, the drier vineforest ecosystems are the most critically endangered / of concern, and should therefore be the focus of the project, (refer to Table 3 in McDonald, Young, and Watson, 1999).

It is recognised that finer scale resolution mapping will be required to inform the project and the Recovery Team will take advantage of such mapping to help define the distribution and extent of the nominated ecosystem(s). Examples of such mapping for the SEQ bioregion include forest type and ecosystem mapping provided by the Qld Herbarium, SEQ 2001 mapping project, Local Government mapping, Department of Primary Industries forest type mapping, and other sources such as consultants reports.

Defining the 'rationale' for ecosystem level recovery planning

Essential ecological processes and relationships occur at the ecosystem level, and as Webb (1984) suggests, it is essential that we conserve species in their habitat and ecosystem context. It is assumed that as more detailed and comprehensive descriptions of the environmental variables and ecological processes at work in the landscape are described, and become known, the classification of regional ecosystems will be fine tuned and lead to more effective biodiversity conservation, planning and management.

Recovery planning has to date been concentrated at the species level, with individual Recovery Plans being prepared for each endangered species. It has been suggested, from time to time, that a more useful approach could be to combine 'suites' of species which occur in a particular forest type or habitat, and prepare a single Recovery Plan which includes them all.

This approach is useful where a community level Recovery Plan is being prepared, and indicates a move toward ecosystem level recovery planning. However, this approach can still be very species focused. The challenge remains then to define just what form the ecosystem recovery planning should take, and how recovery plans will deal with the highly fragmented nature of what remains of the more critically threatened endangered and of concern rainforest ecosystems.

The *Queensland Nature Conservation Act, 1992* defines biodiversity at four levels: landscape, ecosystem, species, and genotype. This is recognition of the reality that our rainforest recovery and biodiversity conservation efforts need to operate at all these levels to deliver outcomes which are capable of securing 'a future' for all the constituent species and processes of the targeted ecosystems. As well, Environment Australia has provided Recovery Plan guidelines (February 1998) for endangered and vulnerable species, and endangered ecological communities, to be listed under the federal *Endangered Species Protection Act 1992*.

In a recent conference keynote address by Alex Rankin, Director, Threatened Species and Communities Section, Environment Australia, a number of legislative and administrative changes to the way threatened species conservation is undertaken were flagged. Included in these changes is a greater emphasis on ecosystem and community level recovery planning, as compared to the previous focus on species level recovery.

In NSW one such Ecosystem Recovery Plan has been approved for the Cumberland Plain Woodland, and a number of other 'endangered ecosystems' have been interim listed, including the Lowland Riverine Rainforests, which was recently approved. In WA thirteen endangered ecosystems have so far been 'put up' for listing.

Environment Australia is asking these key questions:

- How do we identify the threatened / endangered ecological communities/ecosystems?

- How do we set priorities for recovery?
- How should the recovery process be managed and what are our recovery objectives?
- How do we know when we've been successful?

Over the life of the project we intend to develop and share with you, the readers, a series of articles addressing a range of issues and exploring the research from Australia and elsewhere which has, and is, informing the development of rainforest restoration, and ecosystem recovery planning.

From Island Biogeography to Minimum Viable Population and Meta-population Theory, we will lift the lid on some of the history, people, events, and places, which have helped shape our thinking about the challenges facing people all over the planet concerned with ecosystem decline, species loss, and the implications for our 'shared' and still evolving future.

The Role of the Rainforest Recovery Team

The formation of the Endangered Rainforest Ecosystem Recovery Team was the first step in the process of restructuring the approach to recovery planning in Queensland.

For the first time we have a recovery team with specialist botanists, ecologists, wildlife biologists, community representatives, non-government organisation representatives, and government agency representatives whose brief is to act as an 'umbrella' group to assist the process of delivering recovery plans and actions for all the endangered / threatened (in this case - rainforest) species, ecological communities, and ecosystems in a bioregion, and to assist the delivery of a transferable approach to ecosystem recovery planning.

Ideally a recovery team brings together the key people involved in the research, management, and regulatory roles with those in the community actively involved with and responsible for an area, and those with the necessary expertise or 'local knowledge' to implement on-ground recovery actions.

In the early stage of a recovery project's development, and with the formation of a Recovery Team, there are a number of critical issues to define, explore and resolve. These include:

1. **agree on the definitions, criteria, and procedures** for identifying threatened/endangered rainforest ecosystems and ecological communities and assign them to categories that define conservation status (and are easily comparable with, or incorporate, EA and IUCN categories). This has been substantially achieved in Qld (refer to SEQ Rainforest Recovery discussion paper and reference to Sattler and Williams 1999 for Qld approach to date).
2. **develop a minimum data set** requirement for the process of allocating rainforest ecosystems / communities to the nominated conservation risk code categories. This has been substantially achieved in Qld (refer to this discussion paper and reference to Sattler and Williams 1999 for Qld approach to date).
3. **contribute to, and access the data** relevant to the conservation status of rainforest ecosystems, communities, and species of the SEQ bioregion, (and other bioregions, where the nominated species / communities, and ecosystems occur; that is, over their entire range of distribution)
4. **define the 'threatening processes'** and develop 'Threat Abatement Plans'??
5. **define 'recovery'** for the nominated species, populations, ecological communities and ecosystems

The recovery team's job there after is likely to include:

- providing support (scientific, management and 'other' advice) for nomination, listing, and

recovery planning for threatened regional ecosystems

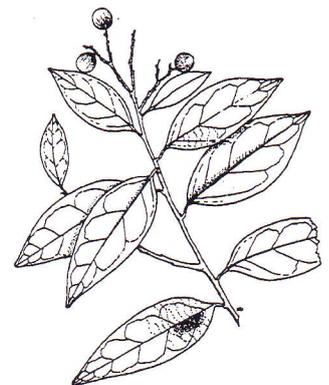
- preparing and assisting the development of recovery plans
- assisting and directing the implementation of on-ground actions to conserve threatened species and ecological communities in their bioregional ecosystem and landscape setting.

There is a recognised need for recovery planning and the implementation of recovery actions to be organised at a number of levels. Primarily this reflects the reality that a single recovery team could not know the major threats at each site, nor could they manage the within species diversity for conservation objectives, nor could they know what is going on at each site of a threatened species or ecological community.

One way to deal with this is provided in the following scenario, where the 'umbrella' Recovery Team would concentrate on the big picture overview and provide support to local area 'action teams' which would (in turn) manage recovery actions at a local and smaller scale.

The development of local area 'action teams', made up of people with local knowledge who know the major threats at specific sites, and who can quickly implement ameliorative recovery actions, is regarded as critical to on-ground success in the longer term.

The WWF project is based on developing this sort of recovery structure in SEQ.



Cryptocarya foetida, illustrated by Janet Hauser

Introduction to the New Recovery Team Members

With the new stage of Rainforest Recovery under way, the SEQ Rainforest Recovery Team is established and meeting bi-monthly at the Qld Herbarium. The team assists the project through assessing landholder assistance applications and developing as model SEQ Rainforest Ecosystem Recovery Plan, one of the first of its kind in Australia. Look out for recovery team updates in coming issues of SEQ Rainforest Recovery News.

The Team Members are:

- **Paul Donatiu, Greening Australia Queensland.** Paul works as Bushcare Support Officer, Moreton and has a strong personal and professional interest in rainforest. He has co-lead workshops in Rainforest Plant Identification and Rainforest Gardening workshops through Greening Australia and Brisbane Forest Park. He also has considerable experience and skills in community nature conservation and bushcare activities.
- **DR Wendy Drake, QPWS.** Wendy is Acting Manager Conservation Resource based at QPWS Moggill, and is well known for her mapping and assessment work in coastal regions of SEQ, and for her involvement in developing the *Austromyrtus gonoclada* Recovery plan. Wendy was a past member of the SEQ Rainforest Recovery's Ipswich Rainforest Recovery Team.
- **Keryn Hyslop, World Wide Fund For Nature Australia, SEQ Rainforest Recovery.** Keryn is the new Conservation Officer with Rainforest Recovery bringing with her skills and experience in volunteer management, community nature conservation, bush regeneration and native vegetation management. Keryn is also an advocate for bush friendly gardens and has taught workshops over the years on their design and construction.

• **Robert Kooyman, World Wide Fund For Nature Australia.** Rob worked with NSW Forestry for over 20 years as a field ecologist, and has recently taken up the position of Rainforest Recovery Officer with the SEQ Rainforest Recovery project. Rob has a great wealth of knowledge of rainforest, and other ecosystems, and the actions necessary for their conservation. He is the author of *Growing Rainforest*, which many community groups and individuals are familiar with as their 'bible' for rainforest rehabilitation projects.

• **Ken McClymont, Brisbane City Council(BCC), Brisbane Rainforest Action and Information Network (BRAIN).** Ken has worked with BCC's bushland care program as Bushcare Liaison Officer for many years, and played an important part in it's development. It now has approximately 60 active groups. Ken was also founder of BRAIN, a community rainforest conservation group and is well known for his rainforest plant identification and propagation skills and enthusiasm for rainforest.

• **Bill McDonald, Qld Herbarium.** Bill started his career as one of the early staff members of Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, in Qld in the 70's. Since that time he has developed considerable expertise in botany through many years work with the Herbarium. Bill is well known for his excellent plant identification and botanising skills and has been involved in many ecosystem mapping and site data collection projects. He is the co-author of the well used bible for rainforest plant identification, commonly known as 'the red book'. Bill was also a past member of the Ipswich Recovery Team.

• **DR Mike Olsen, Griffith University and Private Consultant.** Mike lectures in Environmental Sciences and works as a private consultant. He has carried out extensive site mapping and assessment projects throughout SEQ which has vastly improved the information available for SEQ.

Mike is also well known for his alter ego 'the weed fairy' and for his passion for conservation.

• **DR Dane Panetta, Department of Natural Resources.** Dane works as Principal Scientist with the Alan Fletcher Research Station and has extensive knowledge in weed research and the effect of weeds on native ecosystems. Dane's expertise in weed research is valuable in assisting the team to develop weed strategies at an ecosystem and local site level, bringing the latest information on weed research to the team.

• **Dr Julia Playford, University of Qld.** Julia is lecturer in Botany and specialises in evolutionary genetics. She plays a valuable role in advising on genetic issues for the long term conservation of ecological communities and is a proponent for 'Conservation v's Preservation' for natural ecosystems. Julia was a past member of the Ipswich Rainforest Recovery Team.

• **DR Geoff Smith, Department of Natural Resources.** Geoff is a Zoologist and has considerable expertise in fauna research. Geoff's considerable skills and expertise are valuable in informing the team, about the role of fauna in ecosystem processes, and the implications for ecosystem viability and conservation. Geoff gave a presentation on the black breasted button quail, at the WWF Rainforest Recovery for the new Millennium conference last year.

• **Maria Van Der Gragt, World Wide Fund For Nature Australia.** Maria is the Qld Program Manager with WWF and brings with her much experience, considerable skills and expertise in program management and nature conservation. Maria previously worked as Threatened Species Network coordinator, and has since developed the Qld Program which includes many innovative conservation projects.

The recovery team also has advisory members who offer their skills and experience to assist with specific issues as required. The advisory members include: **Peter Young, EPA**, Senior Principal Conservation Officer and **Jeremy**

Thompson, QPWS, Acting Manager, Threatened Species and Ecosystem Unit.

Rainforest Recovery Admin Person

The SEQ Rainforest Recovery project based at Moggill, Brisbane, requires a **Volunteer** to assist with admin one day a week. The person needs to have good admin and computer skills including word, excel etc.

Tasks will include general admin and development of environmental interpretation information.

Good people skills, as well as some rainforest, natural resource management, community nature conservation, environmental education/interpretation skills would be valuable.

Call Keryn Hyslop for more information ph: 07 3202 0251

SEQ Rainforest Recovery Newsletter Mailing List

Complete and **post** to: SEQ Rainforest Recovery, P.O. Box 42, Kenmore, Qld 4069 or **fax** to 07 3202 6844

- Please add my details to the mailing list
 Please remove my details from the list
 Please send me the following back copies
(please circle) 1 2 3 4

Name:.....

Address:.....

Suburb/Town:

State: Postcode:

Organisation:.....

Phone:.....

Email:.....

Rainforest Recovery in the Lockyer

by Shirley Walker.

Neville and Shirley Walker have a beautiful patch of Semi Evergreen Vine Forest in the Lockyer Valley. Following is an account from Shirley.

Our Rainforest covers almost 150 acres in the Lockyer Valley. It has a creek and tributaries running through it, with the forest rising up on both sides.

We used to walk along the creek, and it was very pleasant observing the plant life on either side, but my husband has recently constructed pathways for a future eco-tourism venture. Now walking along the paths is delightful. Your eye travels from the smallest ferns near your feet, up through the tangle of vines and tall trunks with an orchid or staghorn here and there to the canopy.

There are several ancient fig trees with very large buttressed roots for support. These roots unerringly find their way to the creek. Here and there huge chunks of rock tower above with epiphytes growing on them.

Thoroughly enchanting is the 'Valley of the *Birdsnests*'. To walk among these ferns, at least 100 of them, some measuring at least 10 feet across, brings feelings of both tranquillity and majesty.

The '*Weeping Rock*' covered in a mass of lush green ferns all year round (mainly maidenhair) *Adiantum sp* is a delight to see, as are the giant rock formations topped by hairsfoot fern *Davallia sp* and birdsnests *Asplenium sp*.



Walkers Rainforest, rainforest lining the stony creek bed.

Your eye travels from the smallest ferns near your feet, up through the tangle of vines and tall trunks with an orchid or staghorn here and there

A botanist who requested permission to visit the rainforest listed 194 species in one day.

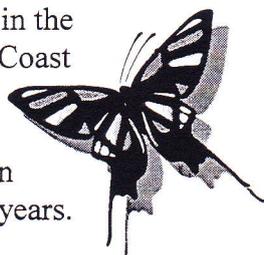
He said that if he had time to visit the upper sections, he probably could have doubled the number.

We have cared for the rainforest for 40 years, for which we have received a Bushcare award, but we acknowledge that the rainforest, although in need of care, cannot be duplicated by man. This is nature left to itself, caring for itself, and evolving into the future.

Ed's note: Neville and Shirley Walker are developing an ecotourism venture to welcome visitors to share the beauty of their rainforest. For More information contact SEQ Rainforest Recovery.

Rainforest Naturalists, Lyn and Doug Cook, Gold Coast Hinterland

Lyn and Doug Cook are resident in the Tallebudgera Valley in the Gold Coast Hinterland. Lyn is third generation in Tallebudgera Valley, and her family has been in the hinterland for more than 120 years.



Their natural history and conservation interest has a practical side as they own a bush block with a common boundary with the World Heritage listed Springbrook National Park. The block has quite a collection of rare and interesting plants and animals, including the endangered frog *Mixophyes fleayi* (Fleay's barred frog). They enjoy experimenting with, and facilitating, regeneration of the bush.

Lyn has volunteered her time at the local primary school for the last 11 years. Her projects include the establishment of an arboretum as a living index of local native rainforest species, with all the plants being local provenance and propagated by herself.

The Arboretum contains about 115 species of local rainforest trees and shrubs, about 18 of which are rare and threatened species. There is a special feature of the Birdwing Butterfly vine, *Pararistolochia praevenosa*. This project was the winner in its category of the inaugural Arbor Day Award 1996.

Lyn also regularly takes nature study and 'gardening' classes with the year 6 and 7's. The school is fortunate in having a 'forestry plot', actually the old horse paddock, which is naturally regenerating. Apart from the planted pines and problem camphor laurel, this area has some real gems of flora and great potential. Lyn and Doug have made a 300m graded walking track in this steep site to facilitate use by the school community.

Lyn has been growing Birdwing Butterfly vines for 10 years to give away to good homes. They are also planted on their own property, which has resulted in successful breeding of the Birdwing Butterfly *Ornithoptera richmondia* many times.

Doug has worked in many of Queensland's rainforest areas, assisting with entomological research. This work has concentrated on the Wet Tropics, though recently the dry scrubs of the southern Brigalow belt have been getting some attention.

Doug believes that there must be a way to encourage and secure nature conservation on freehold land. Such a scheme would supplement the existing fragmented and small national park system. The benefits to the community must be balanced by the benefits to the owner for such a scheme to succeed.



Bridge the Gap Treeplant Saturday Feb 27th

Help plant 5000 trees, connecting 120 acres of superb rainforest to Bridge Creek and other nearby remnants.

**& JOIN US FOR
AN AFTERNOON FESTIVAL
featuring:
A GREAT RANGE OF LOCAL MUSIC,
BUSHFOOD WALKS WITH ANN MORAN,
CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES WITH THE MARY
RIVER COD TEAM,
& THEIR AMAZING COD DRAGON,
INTERESTING GUEST SPEAKERS, FOOD,
DISPLAYS AND MORE!**

Free cold drinks and morning snacks for tree planters, all afternoon activities free of charge (except food), prizes for treeplanters, a fantastic opportunity to get together with friends and achieve something positive for biodiversity for 2000.

**Call Barung Landcare, 07 5494 3151
for details ...**

Macadamia Industry support for project continues

There are four species of Macadamia in the wild in south east Queensland; *Macadamia tetraphylla*, *M. janseni*, *M. ternifolia* and *M. integrifolia*, all listed as vulnerable. Their vulnerable listing means they aren't presently endangered, but are at risk from disappearing from the wild (within 20-50 years) through continued depletion, or which occur on land whose future use is likely to change and threaten its survival.

Each of these vulnerable species requires recovery actions to ensure their survival and this will in part be achieved through the SEQ Rainforest Recovery project, which aims to protect their habitat, and ecosystems, through working with landholders.

To assist in these recovery actions the support of the Macadamia industry is essential for the long term viability of Macadamia species in the wild and also for the industry. The Australian Macadamia Industry (AMI) has once again shown their support for rainforest conservation, and the conservation of in-situ populations of various *Macadamia* spp. in SEQ by providing funding for the WWF Rainforest Recovery project for another two years.

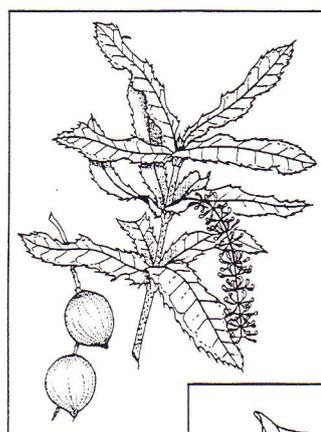
This invaluable and appropriate support from the AMI demonstrates their recognition of the vital role natural populations of this now highly commercial rainforest species will / may have in the future development of new strains for the industry. This includes potentially disease resistant populations, and populations with specific characteristics or genetic variation suited to future breeding of growing stock.

The industry has invested in ex-situ planting of genetic material from a range of populations

following detailed genetic studies conducted by researchers at University of Queensland.

Together with the on ground conservation efforts for 'natural' populations, this is a valuable contribution to conservation of the genetic diversity in the genus *Macadamia*.

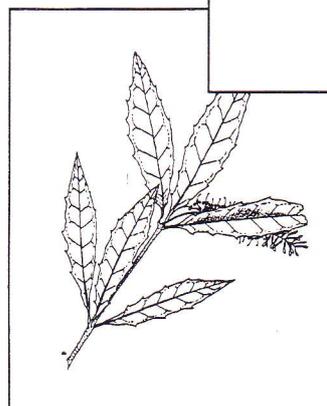
One of the recovery actions required for the long term conservation of threatened natural populations of *Macadamia* spp. in the wild is the conservation of its genetic diversity. Look out for follow up articles on Macadamia Recovery actions.



Macadamia tetraphylla



M. integrifolia



M. ternifolia.

All illustrated by Janet Hauser.

Conservation Agreements, what are they all about ?

by Keryn Hyslop

SEQ Rainforest Recovery assists landholders to conserve rainforest on their own property, and one of the tools used to achieve this is the conservation agreement. The WWF project officers are able to provide *no-strings-attached* advice to landholders to assist them to become aware of, and understand more clearly, the whole range of options available to manage their rainforest remnant.

There has been a lot of talk lately about conservation agreements and surrounding this talk is some confusion.

Some of the questions regularly asked about conservation agreements include:

- what is a conservation agreement?;
- what is the difference between the types of agreements such as Land for Wildlife (LfW), Nature Refuge Agreement (NRA) & Voluntary Conservation Agreements (VCA's) ?;
- what type of assistance is available through a conservation agreement;
- is there a rate rebate?;
- are they title binding?; and
- are they compulsory; and
- can my land be taken away ?

SEQ Rainforest Recovery will attempt to answer some of these questions through featuring one of the three main types of conservation agreements, starting with **Land for Wildlife**, the easiest to join and the most flexible, facilitated through local government and available throughout most of south east Queensland, it offers technical advice, workshops and field days, publishes a newsletter for its members and provides a member network for LfW members to contact each other if they desire; to local Council **Voluntary Conservation**

Agreements, which offer different categories of agreements some binding and some non-title binding and often include assistance through rate rebates, technical advice and on-ground assistance, currently VCA's are available through a few local council eg Ipswich City Council, several other council's are either investigating the possibility or are establishing their VCA's; through to the State Government's Environmental Protection Agency's **Nature Refuge Agreement**, which is currently the most broadly offered, highest level of conservation protection landholders can put on their property. NRA's offer technical advice with the main advantage being that landholders may protect their property for conservation in perpetuity. The NRA scheme is currently being upgraded to provided more assistance to landholders. ***This issue features Land for Wildlife, so to become clearer about conservation agreements read on...***

Conservation Agreement Profile: 'Land for Wildlife'

Conservation Agreement , Quick Checklist	
Totally Voluntary:	✓
Title binding:	X
Non- binding:	✓
Assistance available: <i>technical advice, newsletter, workshops, field days</i>	✓
Available throughout SEQ:	✓

Old's Land for Wildlife (LfW) is a very successful voluntary, non title-binding form of conservation agreement, and was based on the very successful Victorian Land for Wildlife model, established in the 1980's. LfW's popularity with landholders is due to it being easy to join -assessment and approval procedures are relatively quick and easy, it is flexible- LfW landholders may leave the program at any time, or if they wish they may 'upgrade' to other types of conservation agreements to gain further conservation protection for their lands. eg: some landholders have started with LfW and then

moved up the scale of conservation protection to a VCA. (which offer non-binding and binding agreements) or NRA (which are title-binding). LfW assistance is mainly in the form of technical advice, workshops, support through a newsletter and a series of 'wildlife information notes'. Land For Wildlife Coordinator, Malcolm Petrie explains further....

What is Land for Wildlife?

Land for Wildlife is a voluntary scheme which aims to encourage and assist private landholders to provide habitat for wildlife on their property, even though the property may be managed primarily for other purposes. If you wish to create or protect wildlife habitats on your property, then the *Land for Wildlife* scheme can offer you advice and assistance, whether you manage a farm, a bush block or a small property. *Land for Wildlife* status will not change the legal status of the property in any way.

What are the benefits of habitat retention to the landholder?

Habitat retention can play a major role in sustainable land management practices, for example it;

- assists in erosion and salinity control;
- maintains a natural means of controlling pests; and
- provides shade and shelter for livestock.

Why retain bushland on private land?

More than 70% of habitat in South-east Queensland is privately owned and managed. Private landholders hold the key to the survival of many species of wildlife.

Wildlife habitat on private land can:

- contribute to the survival of plants and animals that are dependent on the habitats that once occupied the fertile areas now largely affected by human impacts. Remnant native vegetation is especially important.
- provide links between nature reserves, allowing for wildlife movement and genetic interchange.

Most importantly, you can demonstrate your commitment to maintaining our native plants and animals so that they can continue to characterise

our environment. Every bit of cared for habitat counts.

What are the benefits of joining Land for Wildlife? *Land for Wildlife* can offer you:

Advice...

- on how wildlife habitat can be integrated with other uses of private land to the benefit of the landholder and wildlife.
- on the management of wildlife habitat, the fauna occurring in an area, its ecological role and its needs.
- on other forms of assistance or incentives that are available.

Each property applying for *Land for Wildlife* status is individually visited - a great opportunity to obtain on-site advice.

Contact

with like-minded landholders and a chance to share in their ideas and experiences through the scheme's publications, at field days and other activities.

Written information

in the form of regular newsletters and a more detailed *Notes* series to assist in specific habitat issues.

A *Land for Wildlife* sign is provided free of charge to acknowledge the efforts being made by the landholder on behalf of wildlife conservation.

The scheme is backed-up by its own team of dedicated extension staff, providing access to a wide range of skills and resources available through the participating Councils in South-east Queensland and other supporting organisations. *Land for Wildlife* can go hand-in-hand with other land management schemes such as *Landcare* and *Bushcare*.

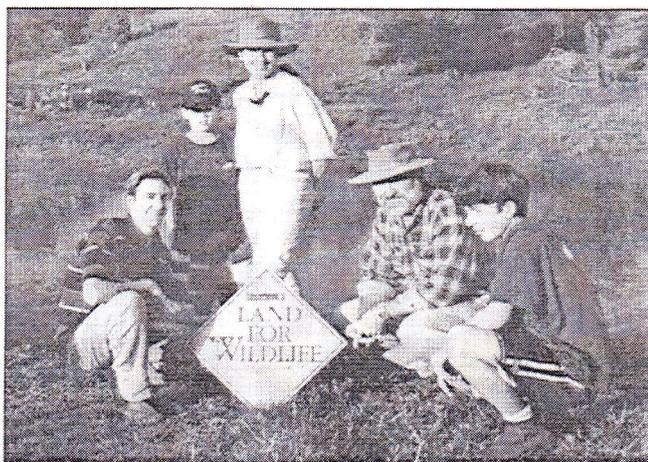
Qualifying for Land for Wildlife.

The *Land for Wildlife* scheme welcomes and encourages landholders that are committed to managing all or part of their property in a way which:

- clearly pursues the maintenance and enhancement of native habitation; and
- attempts to integrate nature conservation with other land management objectives.

The *Land for Wildlife* status of the property will then be retained so long as these objectives continue to be upheld. If the property changes ownership, the new owners need to re-apply for registration under the scheme.

Land for Wildlife is responsive to the needs of the landholders and recognises that each landholder will have a different capacity to participate in the scheme.



If you are interested in the scheme then we suggest that you apply, even if you don't think your property will qualify for registration. We can give you advice now to help you achieve your goals and you will be kept informed, through our publication, as you progress towards registration.

How do I join Land for Wildlife?

An application form is available from participating Councils in South-east Queensland. (and through SEQ Rainforest Recovery project officers - Ed.) An officer of *Land for Wildlife* will contact you to arrange for a meeting to discuss your plans. Subject to a favourable assessment, your property will be entered on the *Land for Wildlife* register. If you do not qualify at this time, you may wish to work toward registration with our help.

Do something positive for yourself, your family and your property by doing something positive for wildlife.

Join us in protecting native wildlife throughout its range for the benefit of current and future generations - you can play an important role.

For Further Information contact the relevant Land for Wildlife person at your participating Council:

- Beaudesert Shire Council - (07) 5540 5111
PO Box 25, Beaudesert Q 4285
- Brisbane City Council - (07) 3403 5713
GPO Box 1434, Brisbane Q4001
- Caboolture Shire Council - (07) 5495 0100
PO Box 159, Caboolture Q 4551
- Caloundra City Council - (07) 5491 0861
PO Box 117, Caloundra Q 4551
- Gold Coast City Council - (07) 5582 8809
PO Box 5042, Gold Coast MC Q 9729
- Ipswich City Council - (07) 3810 6810
PO Box 191, Ipswich Q 4350
- Logan City Council - (07) 3826 5164
PO Box 3226, Logan City DC Q 4114
- Maroochy Shire - (07) 5441 8170
PO Box 76, Nambour Q 4560
- Noosa Shire Council - (07) 5449 5331
PO Box 141, Tewantin Q 4565
- Redland Shire Council - (07) 3286 8468
PO Box 21, Cleveland Q 4163
- Toowoomba City Council - (07) 4688 6537
PO Box 3021, Toowoomba Q 4350

Some landholders have requested the SEQ Rainforest Recovery facilitate conservation agreements on their behalf, the Recovery Officers are happy to provide this service for interested landholders

If you would like some assistance or advice on conservation agreements, please contact the SEQ Rainforest Recovery Conservation Officer ph: 07 3202 0251.

Next issue features 'Nature Refuge Agreements'.

You Want To Learn More About Rainforest ?

Two new seminars/workshops are in the offing...register your interest

Proposed Seminar of the Vegetative Propagation of Rainforest Trees

by Dr John Swarbreck

The Friends of the Escarpment Parks (Toowoomba) Inc. and the Horticulture Section of the Southern Queensland Institute of Technology (Toowoomba TAFE College) are planning to hold a **one day seminar on the vegetative propagation of rainforest trees in Toowoomba in April 2000.**

Friends of the Escarpment Parks are interested in regenerating areas of rainforest on the City's eastern escarpment, but have found difficulty in accessing suitable local rainforest trees. A small experiment attempting to root cuttings of a number of local rainforest trees has had only moderate success.

We believe this difficulty in establishing cuttings may be experienced by many other environmental groups and individuals, and also that others may be having more success than we have had ourselves. And whilst rainforest species may differ throughout the region, the skills and techniques for improving the success of establishing cuttings may be shared.

We are therefore planning a one day seminar on this topic, and are hoping to attract speakers and participants from throughout south eastern Queensland and north eastern New South Wales. This note is to advise you of our planned seminar, and to encourage you to participate. We would like to know what questions you would like to have addressed by speakers, and how many people would be interested in coming to the seminar. If you know of possible speakers on

appropriate topics or people with successful experience in this field, we would also like to know about them.

If you are interested in this seminar could you please reply by letter or fax to the address below so we can keep you informed:

**The President
Friends of the Escarpment Parks
(Toowoomba) Inc.
15 Katoomba Crescent
TOOWOOMBA Q 4350
Fax (07) 4632 5859**

Vineforest Plant Identification Workshop

Have you wanted some of the best botanists to teach you some of the tricks of plant identification, particularly for the drier vineforests?

Kym and Peter Sparshott, from NatureSearch and QPWS, with assistance from Bill McDonald from the Qld Herbarium, co-author of 'The Red Book', recently ran a great plant identification workshop, which I was fortunate enough to attend.

The workshop started out with some classroom type theory, which provided a good opportunity to ask those niggling questions I had about *stipules*, *oil dots* and *glands*.... This was then followed by a field trip to put into practice the techniques just learnt.

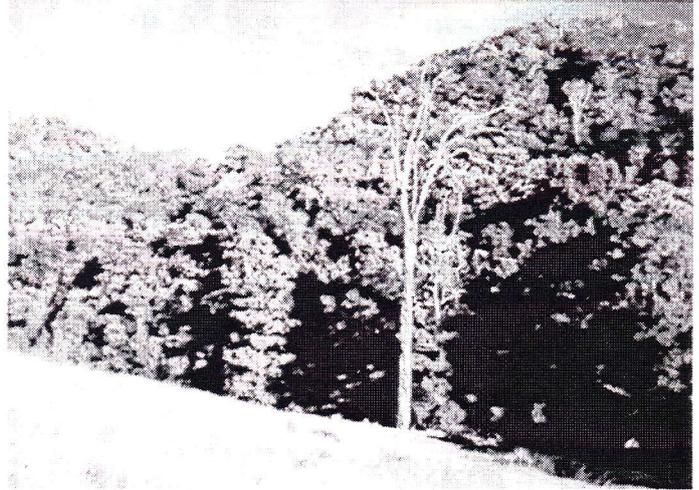
Peter and Kym have kindly agreed to run a similar workshop with SEQ Rainforest Recovery possibly in the Nanango area. But we are interested to learn if there is interest in other areas. So here is your chance for some great, no-charge, plant Id' tuition, so round up your fellow, keen plant id'ers and call/send a letter to register your interest. Please include the number of people interested, and your location.

Contact Keryn Hyslop, SEQ Rainforest Recovery ph: 07 3202 0251

Are You A Rainforest Landholder? Apply For Assistance Today



SEQ Rainforest Recovery



Bushcare

Application Close Dates:
**31st Dec 99 &
31st Mar 00**

Are you battling to save your patch of rainforest? Could you use a hand? Through the SEQ Rainforest Recovery application process, assistance for fencing, weed and fire management and advice on management techniques is available to landholders wishing to manage their rainforest more sustainably. **For more information or for an Application form, fill out the coupon below....**

This project is funded federally by Bushcare, a program of the Commonwealth Government's "Natural Heritage Trust", and in Qld by the Environmental Protection Agency, the Australian Macadamia Society and the Horticultural Research and Development Corporation.

YES! I would like an Application Form...

Send me a SEQ Rainforest Recovery 'Landholder Assistance' Application form:

Yes (please tick) No

Please send me the SEQ Rainforest Recovery Newsletter: Yes No

Name:

Address:

State: Postcode: Phone:

Post your completed form to SEQ Rainforest Recovery,

PO Box 42, Kenmore Qld 4069;. or Fax to: 07 3202 6844

For more information contact: Keryn Hyslop 07 3202 0251 Email: keryn.hyslop@env.qld.gov.au