

President's Report

Relationships

The last year saw the value and power relationships with other organisations bring to the work we do.

Athelstone Kiwanis, Athelstone Lions, The Department, including the NRM, The Australian Retired Persons Association, Tony Ryan and Learning Works, Morialta Rock Climbers, Morialta Residents Association, Campbelltown Landcare Group, Stradbroke Scouts, Collaboration with other organisations have meant that we have been able to achieve so much more than anything we could have done in isolation.



Plant-a-Feast

12 May saw plant –a-Feast day at the back of the Wildflower Garden in Black Hill Conservation Park. *Hakea carinata* was planted in the very hard and shallow ground in the quarry area. DEWNR organized and coordinated this event, and we were well assisted by a good contingent from the Campbelltown Landcare Group.



Remarkably some of the plants flowered this year, and we have yet to find a failed plant. I can also report to you that Yellow Tailed black Cockatoos have been seen feasting on the existing mature plants in the area, so they are going to love it when these plants produce fruit in a few years.

4th Creek Project

4th Creek Project has been a focus of our attention this year, and thanks to an NRM funding grant, the 4th Creek Management Plan was completed.

The management plan provides a framework around which to set priorities and timing of the work done in the 4th Creek project site, and extends from Stradbroke Road, all the way to the base of the first falls.

We have continued with community events, and this coming year, have funding from the Campbelltown Council for more community engagement work.



Most importantly, we have seen a new project coordinator step up, and we sincerely thank Liz Milner for tackling this daunting role. We have already seen substantial visible improvements and increase in the number of native species in the small area we have been blitzing during the community events.

Mental Health Awareness Week

Liz has not only ably led her first few working bees, she also led the Mental Health Awareness Week walk in Morialta and been busy developing a new flyer for the 4th Creek Project site, I would like to give you a sneak preview of that tonight.



Park Friends

The Friends of Black Hill and Morialta were very pleased to have been involved with the production of the Park Friends radio series. This was made by Tony Ryan from Learning Works, with PBA-FM and funded by the NRM. While it was funded by the NRM, I am sure Tony put a considerable share of his own resources to deliver this project. This 12 part radio series has already broadcast on a number of community radio stations. There are 12 episodes that talk about Parks, their importance and how people interact with them in a number of ways, including recreational and volunteering experiences.

The project aims were to:

- *Provide an integrated series of radio broadcasts, podcasts and a related website with a focus on learning about practical involvement in conservation parks in South Australia by students and adults*
- *Involve listeners in becoming critically aware of the important work being done by government and by volunteers in maintaining and preserving conservation parks;*
- *Feature some of the authentic stories of those actively involved in volunteer work, and/or as park users, in our conservation parks, using text, photographs and radio interviews;*
- *Showcase some of the work being done by schools to encourage ongoing active involvement in conservation parks by students*
- *Foster participation by families, schools and community/service groups in the maintenance and preservation of our state conservation parks*
- *Provide some first lifelong learning resources for anyone with an interest in issues around sustainability, biodiversity and park management for various users of parks.*





Speakers included Minister Paula Caica, associate professor David Paton, representatives from the Dept of Environment Water and Natural Resources and the NRM board, Adelaide Hills Natural Resources Management Centre, the Australian Retired Persons Association, David Mitchell, Friends of Parks Inc, members of the community and members of the Friends of Black Hill and Morialta Inc.

The Park Friends project was a finalist in the Media Category of the World Environment Day Awards 2012.

The Friends of Black Hill and Morialta Inc were awarded the Outstanding Achievement Award for the DEWNR group project at the 2012 Friends Forum. We are very grateful to Acting Senior Ranger Coral Marsden and Senior Ranger Volunteer Support Liz McTaggart for nominating us for this award. While we were very happy and honored to accept the award, we want to continue to acknowledge the role of all the participants in this project, and especially Tony Ryan for the concept and all the effort and resources he has put into the project to bring it to completion.

If you have not had a chance to hear the series, they are available for download as mp3 files from the Park Friends website and I understand the series is to be rebroadcast on PBA FM soon.



Business as Usual

Meanwhile, work has continued in our other project sites, including Horsnell Gully, The Montacute Valley with ARPA, the Pylon Track, Olive Hill, Ambers Gully, 3rd Falls track and the Wildflower Garden.

So a big thank you to all our members who make all this possible, especially those who come and help out at working bees, the project coordinators, and behind the scenes to the committee and officers, without whom the group would not be able to function in the way it does. Special thanks to Reg Clark for chairing a recent meeting at short notice and with Russell refitting the tool room and finding a new fridge for us, Russell Dahms for taking on dual roles as

Secretary and Treasurer while propagating a lot of our plants, Ann Taylor our wonderful minute secretary and records officer, Colin Sparrow for propagating plants and Graham Churchett, our deputy president.



Library Display

One of the best recruiting methods is an amazingly simple one... having a display in the Campbelltown Library. A big thank you to Helen Greer from the Campbelltown Library for setting up the display for us. I am sure you would agree she did a marvelous and creative job.



A challenge for You

The department has released a consultation draft to amend the 1972 National Parks and Wildlife Act to introduce a new reserve category system for South Australia.

The amendments include:

- modernising the reserve categories by establishing a clearly-defined system of reserve categories
- including overarching objects for the reserve system and its management
- providing clarity on which reserve categories provide for mining access and other extractive resource uses.

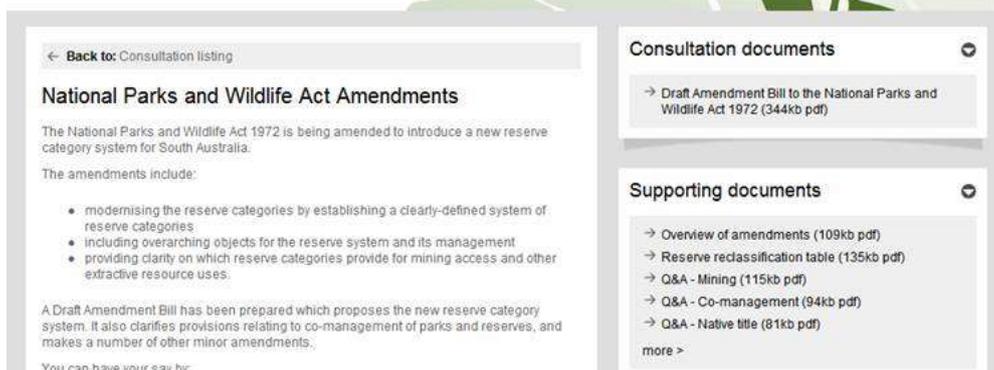
I have not been able to work through what this means for South Australian Parks, but encourage you to seek the material out, read it and make your comments.

Amendments to the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972

Consultation Draft

Community consultation closes: Friday 21 December 2012

Details available



← Back to: Consultation listing

National Parks and Wildlife Act Amendments

The National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 is being amended to introduce a new reserve category system for South Australia.

The amendments include:

- modernising the reserve categories by establishing a clearly-defined system of reserve categories
- including overarching objects for the reserve system and its management
- providing clarity on which reserve categories provide for mining access and other extractive resource uses.

A Draft Amendment Bill has been prepared which proposes the new reserve category system. It also clarifies provisions relating to co-management of parks and reserves, and makes a number of other minor amendments.

You can have your say by:

Consultation documents

- Draft Amendment Bill to the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 (344kb pdf)

Supporting documents

- Overview of amendments (109kb pdf)
- Reserve reclassification table (125kb pdf)
- Q&A - Mining (115kb pdf)
- Q&A - Co-management (94kb pdf)
- Q&A - Native title (81kb pdf)

more >

<http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/haveyoursay/npwactamendments>

Lastly, I would like remind you of the Campbelltown Christmas Parade on Sunday 9 December! We are planning to theme naughty or nice! Do you have plants in your garden that are naughty when they get into natural reserves?

And of course on behalf of the committee wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas and a productive 2013.

President
John Fleming