**Plant Cuttings – July 2021**

# NSW losing Sydney CBD-sized chunk of tree cover every two days to clearing, The Sydney Morning Herald, 29 June 2021

# NSW lost the equivalent of Sydney’s CBD to clearing for farming, forestry and other uses in 2019 every two days, continuing the accelerated deforestation pace that followed the loosening of native vegetation laws. <https://www.smh.com.au/environment/conservation/nsw-losing-sydney-sized-chunk-of-tree-cover-every-two-days-to-clearing-20210629-p58564.html>

# Will your grandchildren have the chance to visit Australia’s sacred trees? The Conversation, 9 July 2021

Trees have always been a point of conflict between colonisers and Indigenous people. At the very beginning of European-Indigenous interactions, skirmishes broke out because colonisers were ignorant of protocols and the desecration of important Indigenous sites and habitats. In the 19th century, as frontiers pushed west into the Country of Wiradjuri, colonists were indifferent to the sanctity of marked trees. <https://theconversation.com/will-your-grandchildren-have-the-chance-to-visit-australias-sacred-trees-only-if-our-sick-indifference-to-aboriginal-heritage-is-cured-163581>

# How indoor plants can creep outside and cause havoc, ABC RN Drive, 13 July 2021

We're spending more time at home with many of us are trying to create peaceful, calm spaces, bringing a piece of nature to our living-rooms, kitchens and newly created home offices. But how much do we know about the plants we grow? It turns out that our plants can escape and turn into invasive weeds that pose a threat to Australia’s unique ecosystems and habitat for wildlife. <https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/drive/how-indoor-plants-can-creep-outside-and-cause-havoc/13443576>

# Cactus-traffickers are pushing rare plants to extinction, ABC Late Night Live, 14 July 2021

# While there is international concern about wildlife trafficking pushing endangered species such as rhinos, tigers and pangolins to the brink of extinction, few people are aware of the multi-million-dollar black market trade in exotic plants. A huge cactus bust in Italy, which resulted in the confiscation of over 1,000 rare cacti smuggled out of Chile's Atacama Desert, highlights the thorny issue of plant poaching. <https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/latenightlive/cactus-trafficking-is-pushing-rare-plants-to-extinction/13425172>

# Most of Australia’s threatened plants aren’t being monitored, increasing the risk of extinctions. NESP, 22 July 2021

# Most of Australia’s threatened plants aren’t being monitored, increasing the risk of extinctions. Almost two-thirds (63%) of threatened Australian plants are not receiving any monitoring according to a recent national assessment published in Biological Conservation. <https://www.nespthreatenedspecies.edu.au/news-and-media/media-releases/most-of-australia-s-threatened-plants-aren-t-being-monitored-increasing-the-risk-of-extinctions>

**Fabulous Ferns, ABC Saturday Breakfast, 24 July 2021**

Ferns are fabulous additions to gardens. Wayne Richards, President of the SA Fern Society, joins Jon Lamb & Deb Tribe with loads of advice on what ferns to plant and how to care for them. Turf consultant Stefan Palm tackles moss and algae in pavers. <https://www.abc.net.au/radio/adelaide/programs/saturdaybreakfast/talkback-gardening/13468980>

**Red Cedar, ABC Radio Melbourne, 27 July 2021**

Red cedar (*Toona ciliata*) was so valued by woodworkers that in the late 1970s a scheme to pluck individual trees from Queensland rainforests was considered. Dr Greg Moore tells Jacinta Parsons that the plan didn't end up going ahead. <https://www.abc.net.au/radio/melbourne/programs/afternoons/greg-moore-on-red-cedar/13472276>

# Fungi fossicker discovers 'highly significant' orchid species in Gold Coast hinterland, ABC News, 28 July 2021

A fungi enthusiast has helped identify a new species of orchid during a hike in the Gold Coast hinterland. Meredith Philistin took a photo of the unusual plant and sent it to her friend, Joanne Lau, who is an orchid enthusiast. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-07-28/new-orchid-species-discovered-in-gold-coast-hinterland/100322870>

# Bushfire brings an unexpected gift as creek bed is rejuvenated 16 years on, ABC News, 19 July 2021

Farmer John Cook lost sheds, machinery, historic stone buildings, fences, and 500 sheep in the Black Tuesday Wangary bushfire in 2005. He lost valuable vegetation lining a creek but it regenerated.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-07-19/bushfire-brings-an-unexpected-gift/100299088>

**Up-listing of critically endangered ecological community, DAWE**

The national Threatened Species Scientific Committee and the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment are inviting comments on a proposed up-listing for a nationally threatened ecological community under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

Listed as critically endangered, the Eastern suburbs Banksia scrub of the Sydney Region is a unique type of heathland that is found mainly in the eastern and south-eastern coastal areas of Sydney.

The Threatened Species Scientific Committee and Department are now inviting comments by Mon 9 August 2021 on this proposed up-listing. Visit their website for more information <https://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/nominations/comment/eastern-suburbs-banksia-scrub-sydney-region>

**Events and Opportunities – July 2021**

**The Biodiversity Conference 2021 - Resilient Landscapes**
15-17 September 2021, Perth WA
This Conference brings together researchers and practitioners across academia, government, industry and community to share scientific knowledge, biodiversity informatics and best practice in biodiversity conservation. <https://biodiversity2021.com/>

**Save the date: 13th Australasian Plant Conservation Conference (APCC13) 'Seeds to recovery',**

3-7 April 2022 in Albury, NSW.
<https://www.anpc.asn.au/conferences/apcc13/>
The themes for the conference are seeds, bushfire recovery, threatened species & communities, and engaging people with conservation & restoration. Partnerships opportunities are available, please see <https://www.anpc.asn.au/conferences/apcc13/partnerships/>

**Save the date for the 2021 RIAWA Seminar 'The Revegetation Cycle'**

13-14 October 2021
The ANPC’s project manager Dr Lucy Commander has been invited to give a keynote presentation on the Florabank Guidelines <https://www.riawa.com.au/events/the-revegetation-cycle>

**Register now for The Inaugural John Glover Symposium 'The Southwest Biodiversity Hotspot'**

3 & 4 September 2021 at the University of Western Australia.

The ANPC’s Vice-president Dave Coates is invited to give the presentation' Threats to biodiversity in the southwest' at this upcoming event by the Royal Society of Western Australia.
<https://www.rswa.org.au/events/The%20Inaugural%20John%20Glover%20Symposium%20Final.pdf>