**Plant cuttings – September 2021**

**Most of Australia’s threatened plant species aren’t being monitored increasing the risk of extinctions - NESP media release, 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>

**Cacti were once considered a pest. Now they're the most illegally trafficked houseplants in the world – ABC News, 18 August 2021**Cacti experts estimate that of the world's known cacti species, almost a third are threatened with extinction. And Ms Nuwer says illegal cacti trafficking is the number one threat to the decline in species.<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-08-18/cacti-trafficking-illegal-trade-international/100349306>

# Plan to plant a billion trees yet to take root three years after target set, ABC Rural, 31 August 2021 In September 2018, the federal government unveiled a plan to radically expand Australia's timber plantations by one billion trees over a decade. Today, less than 1 per cent of that goal has been planted. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/2021-08-31/slow-progress-on-plan-to-plant-billion-trees/100421414> Living with giants: the beauty of Victoria’s ash forests, ANU Newsroom, 31 August 2021

# Ancient rainforests that sustained our First Nations peoples, trees the height of 25-storey buildings and gliding marsupials larger than any other -- these are just some of the wonders found in Victoria's mountain ash forests. A new book tells their incredible stories through stunning photography. <https://www.anu.edu.au/news/all-news/living-with-giants-the-beauty-of-victoria%E2%80%99s-ash-forests>

# ****Flies like yellow, bees like blue: how flower colours cater to the taste of pollinating insects, The Conversation 2 September 2021**** We all know the birds and the bees are important for pollination, and we often notice them in gardens and parks. But what about flies? <https://theconversation.com/flies-like-yellow-bees-like-blue-how-flower-colours-cater-to-the-taste-of-pollinating-insects-167111>

# Deadwood releasing 10.9 gigatons of carbon every year, ANU Newsroom, 2 September 2021 Decaying wood releases around 10.9 gigatons of carbon worldwide every year, according to a new study by an international team of scientists. This is roughly equivalent to 115 per cent of fossil fuel emissions. Co-author of the study Professor David Lindenmayer from The Australian National University (ANU) says it's the first time researchers have been able to quantify the contribution of deadwood to the global carbon cycle. <https://www.anu.edu.au/news/all-news/deadwood-releasing-109-gigatons-of-carbon-every-year>

**How plants use colour to attract insects, Evenings With Mel Bush, 6 September 2021**

Adrian Dyer, Associate Professor from RMIT University, talks to Mel Bush about the special relationship between flowers and their pollinators and how colour is used to attract said insects. <https://www.abc.net.au/radio/hobart/programs/evenings/adrian-insects/13529776>

# Four questions, five messages and six fronts for ecosystem restoration – IUCN, 7 September 2021

# Restoring our beleaguered ecosystems means working together to secure the massive investment needed to reverse environmental degradation, according to an IUCN think piece. Restoring carbon- and species-rich ecosystems on land and in the ocean is also highly effective for both climate change mitigation and biodiversity, with large adaptation co-benefits. <https://www.iucn.org/news/nature-based-solutions/202109/four-questions-five-messages-and-six-fronts-ecosystem-restoration>

**The woman saving Palestinian heirloom seeds, BBC News, 10 September 2021**

To seed librarian Vivien Sansour, seeds are living beings, and to see heirloom seeds disappearing is a human tragedy. Sansour didn't start out intending to create [The Palestine Heirloom Seed Library](https://viviensansour.com/Palestine-Heirloom). Born out of a longing to find the traditionally grown Palestinian food she grew up eating, the seed library took root in 2014. <https://www.bbc.com/travel/article/20210908-the-woman-saving-palestinian-heirloom-seeds?ocid=ww.social.link.email>

**The daily dance of flowers tracking the sun is more fascinating than most of us realise, The Conversation, 10 September 2021**When I was a child, I was intrigued by the Queensland box (Lophostemon confertus) growing in our backyard. I noticed its leaves hung vertical after lunch in summer, and were more or less horizontal by the next morning. This an example of heliotropism, which literally means moving in relation to the sun. We can see it most clearly as spring arrives and various species burst into flower — you might even get the feeling that some flowers are watching you as they move. <https://theconversation.com/the-daily-dance-of-flowers-tracking-the-sun-is-more-fascinating-than-most-of-us-realise-167374>

# Destroying vegetation along fences and roads could worsen our extinction crisis — yet the NSW government just allowed it – The Conversation, 17 September 2021 What do koalas, barking owls, greater gliders, southern rainbow skinks, native bees, and regent honeyeaters all have in common? Like many native species, they can all be found in vegetation along fences and roadsides outside formal conservation areas. <https://theconversation.com/destroying-vegetation-along-fences-and-roads-could-worsen-our-extinction-crisis-yet-the-nsw-government-just-allowed-it-167801>

# Domestic tourism boom threatens local plant species, ABC News 21 September 2021

# An influx of tourists visiting Western Australia's forests could spell disaster for plant species with researchers worried about the spread of devastating dieback. The combination of a boom in intrastate tourists due to WA's tight COVID borders and a wet winter, causing more mud, creates ideal conditions for the spread of the fungal disease, which has already killed more than one million hectares of native bush in the state. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-09-21/dieback-domestic-tourism-boom/100479574>

# Climate change is testing the resilience of native plants to fire, from ash forests to gymea lilies, The Conversation, 21 September 2021

# But in recent years, the length, frequency and intensity of Australian bushfire seasons have increased, and will worsen further [under climate change](https://www.ipcc.ch/assessment-report/ar6/). [Droughts and heatwaves are also projected to increase](https://www.ipcc.ch/assessment-report/ar6/), and climate change may also affect the [incidence of pest insect outbreaks](https://doi.org/10.1007/s40725-018-0075-6), although this is difficult to predict. <https://theconversation.com/climate-change-is-testing-the-resilience-of-native-plants-to-fire-from-ash-forests-to-gymea-lilies-167367>

# Landmark Report Released – BGCI Press Release

# Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) has published a landmark State of the World's Trees report. The report, compiling work led by the Global Tree Assessment (GTA), is the culmination of five years of research to identify major gaps in tree conservation efforts. It is one of the first assessments of the world's threatened trees. <https://www.bgci.org/news-events/bgci-launches-the-state-of-the-worlds-trees-report/>

**Events and Opportunities**

**13th Australasian Plant Conservation Conference 'Seeds to recovery'** - **3-7 April 2022, Albury, NSW**  
The themes for the conference are seeds, bushfire recovery, threatened species & communities, and engaging people with conservation & restoration. Partnership opportunities are now available. Please visit the conference webpage for more information <https://www.anpc.asn.au/conferences/apcc13/>

**2022 Anne Kantor Fellowship** (Closes 30 September 2021)

The Anne Kantor Fellowships are a graduate style program that will provide on-the-job training to equip and encourage new voices in Australia's future policy and democratic debates. For more information head to their website. <https://www.annekantorfellowship.org.au/how_to_apply>

**Australasian Systematic Botany Society Conference**

This year’s virtual conference had 86 presentations watched by 237 attendees from 7 countries. The recordings of all keynotes and session talks of this year's ASBS conference are now available online. To view the recordings, please log into the ASBS 2021 conference website at <https://asbs2021.bablglobal.com/> and go to the replays tab at <https://asbs2021.bablglobal.com/replays/>.  To navigate to the recordings of the sessions of each day, please refer to the conference program here:  <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1YlFyDvuyHhzf7dlkDsSWlG44Wltz0aDW/view>

**Nominate a Landcare Champion**

Nominations are invited for the 2021 State and Territory Landcare Awards. These awards recognise individuals, communities and community groups across Australia for their outstanding contributions to preserving the Australian landscape. There are 8 categories, closing dates vary in each state or territory, nominations for NSW, the Northern Territory and Queensland are still open. Head to their website to nominate a Landcare champion <https://landcareaustralia.org.au/landcare-awards-2021/>

**Public consultation - National Landcare Program**

Have your say on the National Landcare Program. Review of the National Landcare Program is open for public consultation. All consultation will be undertaken virtually and will close on 15 October 2021. If you would like to be kept informed with the review, including consultation opportunities, then please register your interest by emailing the review’s inbox at [nlp.review@environment.gov.au](mailto:nlp.review@environment.gov.au). More information can be found here <https://www.environment.gov.au/land/national-landcare-program-phase2-review?fbclid=IwAR0RtNjggEY4LPvCtd4m2KXzM_AT5GPXxvrL135A-oWIaMa8_zo3dSkuOp0>

**BCARM Plant Forum**

On Thursday 9 September the BGANZ Collections and Records Management Group (BCARM) held an online Living Collections Workshop. To watch the recording head to their Youtube channel. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BjDmPSq5Jn8>. The ANPC’s Project Manager, Amelia Marty-Yenson will be speaking about the Germplasm Guidelines update in the October workshop. Save the date in your calendar here: <https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001A8EJrx-6i7OScmiCL3p6WMBK2vHKjWUhL-R2yy_s_yM6qVV9iSJ5aAtAyXoGOkYLjmmGfLoiopo5FxXALN_E2PmA5FN3bGC9yGrrL9SnjxBjIfbBOT3X-8BZcrLD4p6D0QmUEhDYxETk0b2Cy0q8C7NhMFA23op8vVIWQKKt3JE6OpxZnj2aN21PmO-doz_LngSflviSpglBc2MmYouJMS7OITfI0pJ4q9zriNzTa3w=&c=uigcRIgURbvBrdvMTcAgp8GOkZJEuWlL0YP9TxlspZBViuQAAJAgkA==&ch=FjYgpq9kWZMTXDGLGPE2qhyMv2ySRL6E9vQRfEvrI5zebqZU0LC4tw==>

**RIAWA 2021 Seminar “The Revegetation Cycle”**

On 13-14 October in Perth, the Revegetation Industry Association of WA are holding their 2021 seminar titled “The Revegetation Cycle” This paid event will be held in person and online. The ANPC's project manager Dr Lucy Commander has been invited to give a keynote presentation on the Florabank Guidelines. For full details head to <https://www.riawa.com.au/events/the-revegetation-cycle>

**WABSI Webinar – free, online event**

On Thursday 21 October 2021 the Western Australian Biodiversity Science Institute are holding a webinar. Titled ‘The economic cost of biological invasions in the world and Australia’ this free webinar will begin at 4PM (AWST). Register here <https://wabsi.org.au/latest-news/wabsi-webinar-economic-costs-of-biological-invasions/>

**ESA Annual Conference – 22-26 Nov 2021**

The Ecological Society of Australia are holding their 61st annual conference online from Monday 22 – Friday 26 November. The theme for this year’s conference is “Renewal” and will explore relationships with each other as our land recovers from fire, drought and flood. Early bird registrations close on 31 October 2021, keynote speakers have been announced on the website. More details at <https://esa2021.org.au/>

**Australian Society of Plant Scientists conference – 25 Nov 2021**

On Monday 25 November 2021 from 2-4PM AEST the Australian Association of Plant Scientists will be holding a hybrid conference. The conference will cover diverse aspects of plant biology across Australia with in person conference locations in most states and territories. See the website to register. <https://www.asps.org.au/asps21>

**Native Seed industry Working Group**

The Australian Seed Federation Board is establishing a new working group for the native seed industry sector. The new group, to be called the ‘Native Seed Industry Working Group’ will provide a representative group for seed companies involved in the native seed industry sector. To be involved in this group, native seed companies must be members of the Australian Seed federation. To become a member of the ASF Native Seed Industry Working Group please email Osman Mewett ([omewett@asf.asn.au](mailto:omewett@asf.asn.au)) by COB Friday 1 October 2021. The ASF Secretariat will look to hold the first meeting of the Group the week beginning Monday 4 October, where the first orders of business will be to elect the Group’s Executive and determine the key objectives of the Group.

**Job vacancy – Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney** (closes 13 Oct 2021)

The Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney are looking to fill a Specialist Nursery Horticulture role. This permanent full-time opportunity is based in Sydney’s Royal Botanical Garden. Responsibilites include developing and maintain horticultural displays and collections in the nursery including plant propagation. Applications close Wednesday 13 October 2021 at 11:55PM, full details can be found at <https://iworkfor.nsw.gov.au/job/horticulturist-nursery-269879>

**Job vacancy – Restoration Decade Alliance** (closes 11 Oct 2021)

The Restoration Decade Alliance is seeking a Part-time (work-from-home) Facilitator for 9 months. SERA and WWF-Australia are providing a small amount of start-up funding to help establish an Alliance of Australian ecosystem restoration organisations keen to promote the goals of the [UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration](https://www.decadeonrestoration.org/) in Australia.The 16-member (so far) Alliance is already in existence -  having signed its terms of reference at the start of the UN Decade on June 5th this year -  but we now need to develop our operational procedures and get some runs on the board. If you are passionate about seeing ecosystem restoration massively increased during this 'Resotration Decade' and feel you have the qualities and experience to help kick start a vibrant and relevant alliance, please request a Position Description from [<admin@restorationdecadealliance.org>](mailto:admin@restorationdecadealliance.org). Applications close COB Monday 11th October 2021.