**Plant Cuttings – April 2023**

# VIDEO: Leaky Weirs: Returning catchments to pre-European function -ABC 12 March 2023

# Calls for a national planning code to help return catchments to their natural pre-European function and boost on-farm productivity. [https://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/programs/landline/2023-03-12/leaky-weirs:-returning-catchments-to-pre-european/102086304](https://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/programs/landline/2023-03-12/leaky-weirs%3A-returning-catchments-to-pre-european/102086304)

# Plant discoveries in outback Queensland to build on knowledge about flora, fauna – ABC 30 March 2023

Arid parts of outback Queensland are abloom with unique flora "surprises" that an expert says could lead to a wealth of new knowledge about plant and animal life. From delicate fringe lilies to small trees, 10 species have been discovered in the state's south-west for the first time. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-03-30/new-plants-discovered-in-arid-outback-queensland/102141214>

# Buffel grass working group to consider Northern Territory impacts and management of invasive plant - ABC, 31 March 2023

The Northern Territory government has established a technical working group to assess the impacts of buffel grass and look at how it is to be managed across Central Australia. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-03-31/nt-buffel-grass-working-group-central-australia/102164504>

# Invasive plant species on the increase in Victorian Alps, raising conservation concerns - ABC, 30 March 2023

Non-native plants are on the rise in Victoria's alpine areas and their spread is causing concern among conservationists. A study, published this month in the journal Nature Ecology and Evolution, found a 16-per-cent increase in non-native species in mountainous regions across 11 international sites over the past decade. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-03-30/victorian-high-country-increase-in-invasive-plant-species/102159112>

# The prom’s eucalyptus forests are dying. Here’s a plan to save them – The Sydney Morning Herald, 10 April 2023

Most people visit Wilsons Promontory National Park to hike its remote bushland trails and swim at pristine beaches amidst lichen-covered boulders. They’re unlikely to notice the “blank-looking holes” in the forested hills, areas where the older eucalyptus trees have disappeared and been replaced by younger ones. <https://www.smh.com.au/environment/conservation/the-prom-s-eucalyptus-forests-are-dying-here-s-a-plan-to-save-them-20230405-p5cy8i.html>

# Severe droughts devastate eucalyptus trees that pre-date Ice Age – The University of South Australia, 12 April 2023

# South Australian scientists have documented the catastrophic decline of a stand of red stringybark in the Clare Valley, a tree species that has survived in the region for 40,000 years but is now at risk of extinction due to climate change. <https://www.unisa.edu.au/media-centre/Releases/2023/severe-droughts-devastate-eucalyptus-trees-that-pre-date-ice-age/>

# A forgotten and neglected ecosystem covers a third of Earth’s coastlines, with a collective value of $500 billion – The Conversation, 19 April 2023

# Underwater forests known as kelp have been sustaining people and cultures for millennia. However, most of us are only vaguely aware of the vibrant masses of seaweed hugging the ocean shores around Earth. Furthermore, we don’t realise how valuable and necessary they really are. <https://theconversation.com/a-forgotten-and-neglected-ecosystem-covers-a-third-of-earths-coastlines-with-a-collective-value-of-500-billion-203908>

# Healing seagrass ‘scars’ to make Sydney Harbour cleaner and clearer – The Sydney Morning Herald, 25 April 2023

# A restoration project that includes transplanting an ancient seagrass species and installing skeletal “fish pods” across Sydney Harbour is the centrepiece of a blueprint to rehabilitate urban estuaries across the world.

# <https://www.smh.com.au/environment/conservation/healing-seagrass-scars-to-make-sydney-harbour-cleaner-and-clearer-20230413-p5d03v.html>

# Australian National Botanic Gardens to receive federal funding boost – The Canberra Times, 27 April 2023 (need subscription to access)

# Long-awaited growth of the Australian botanic gardens is seemingly imminent following a federal funding promise expected to see establishment of a new national seed bank. <https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/8173284/botanic-gardens-wishlist-to-start-being-checked-off-through-budget/>

# Events and Opportunities

**RIAWA Seminar**

On 11 and 12 May the Revegetation Industry Association of WA is holding a seminar in Bentley WA. The title is “20 years of RIAWA: Past, Present & Future”. <https://www.riawa.com.au/events/20-years-of-riawa>

**BGANZ Events for Botanic Gardens Month**

**May 4** Bushfire recovery: through community, conservation and collaborations, with Bryce Watts-Parker (Mallacoota Endemic Garden project), Michael Anlezark (Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Garden) and Gemma Hoyle (Australian National Botanic Gardens).

**May 11** The Ian Potter National Conservatory: a national showcase for tropical Australian native flora, with Heather Sweet (Australian National Botanic Gardens).

**May 18** A botanical banquet – exploring our plant palate, with Karen Sutherland (Edible Eden Design) and Jenny Bell (Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria).

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**May 25** Healing and medicine using indigenous plants and knowledge, with Cliodhna Maguire (First Nations Youth Community Greening Program, Botanic Gardens Sydney) and others (TBC).

To watch the webinars live, head to Costa’s [**Facebook**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001BsdzpEW8Oma5kZ3kOTkJn0m2e0XC9qhKMSh1KsJ4d3DJjBIXnuNL-6wYfqH7wvUsVhVU-_gC3oaBK_KFWLoq2BBoF1dtkHFNTmUmW4cM9rGYi27WsQT40O9Rsbl79JyZ1gt8jsCcH5sNdt8lZz6hGoXjdyBtpqL7eTJtFzcPgqwxI7SUgMTCxQ==&c=MZyiF2Bitfqc6gRkGAj22DmbSsq7DhCVRZBoRl36mdsByh1OJpo7HA==&ch=pv8RJ4yynRlE2_vKCuHeS8uUSuVQlbmxPd3PmNiuhA7MsVaVDEye5w==) or [**YouTube**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001BsdzpEW8Oma5kZ3kOTkJn0m2e0XC9qhKMSh1KsJ4d3DJjBIXnuNL-6wYfqH7wvUs6n-3HwN8Q6Ji1u62mkxVV_mOqPea1r2hTtu4FWhFmXQ-qOa1Me0CRS6TJ5iVrfjZgBUPZ3Veruel5uV6WLYy8Hxlp0IkI_QS8Ashphb4iZAD9i2FG4ogCw==&c=MZyiF2Bitfqc6gRkGAj22DmbSsq7DhCVRZBoRl36mdsByh1OJpo7HA==&ch=pv8RJ4yynRlE2_vKCuHeS8uUSuVQlbmxPd3PmNiuhA7MsVaVDEye5w==) pages at 7pm AEST on the dates above.

**CCWA 2023 Conference**

The Conservation Council of WA’s conference will be held on 13 and 14 Spetember 2023 in Crawley WA. For updates head to <https://www.ccwa.org.au/ccwa_2023_conference>

**IPPS Annual Conference 2023**

IPPS are holding their annual conference in Geelong from Weds 24 – Sat 27 May 2023. This year the conference theme is ‘Propagation – essential to life on Earth’. <https://aus.ipps.org/event-detail/event-154/IPPS-ANNUAL-CONFERENCE-2023-GEEL/>

**International Conservation Translocation Conference**

The 3rd International Conservation Translocation Conference will be taking place on 13-15th November 2023 in Fremantle, Western Australia. The conference theme is “Learning from the past, adapting to the future”. Registration and the call for abstracts is now open. <https://conservationtranslocations.com/>

**Bushfire Conference 2023**

The Nature Conservation Council of NSW has announced dates for its 13th biennial bushfire conference on from Weds 24-Fri 26 May 2023. The theme for the conference is “Managing bushfire together: applying science, skills and stories”. Abstract submissions are open until Monday 27 February. <https://www.nature.org.au/bushfire_conference_2023>

**International Association for Vegetation Science 65th Annual Symposium**

The annual symposium for the International Association for Vegetation Science (IAVS) is being held in Coffs Harbour, NSW from 4-8 September. To express your interest in the event head to the website. The call for abstracts will open soon. <https://iavsaustralia2023.com/program/>

**NSW Weeds Conference**

The NSW Weeds Conference will be held in Dubbo, NSW from 7-10 August 2023. It will showcase the latest research and ideas for managing the establishment, impact and spread of weeds. Submissions are now open to present at the conference. <https://www.nswweedsconf.org.au/>