

Plant Cuttings – July 2026

Imported plant pathogen to be released on the wind to battle poisonous lantana weed – ABC News, 1 July 2026

Under quarantine lockdown in Brisbane's Ecosciences Precinct, an imported plant pathogen is being readied for release, its microscopic spores to be spread by the wind. *Puccinia lantanae* leaf blister rust is being incubated in a laboratory with strict biosecurity measures.

Scientists working with it change clothes on entry and shower in a stainless-steel decontamination room before leaving the lab. But that is about to change.

The fungal biocontrol they have been nurturing is one last approval away from being deployed against one of Australia's worst noxious weeds.

A poisonous, pretty, prolifically flowering shrub, *Lantana camara* was introduced from the Americas in the 1840s. But it escaped from gardens and has since invaded about 5 million hectares of pasture, bush and rainforest across New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, Western Australia and the Northern Territory.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/2026-07-01/lantana-noxious-weed-biological-control-rust-under-preparation/106674568>

Record rains fuel buffel weed surge prompting calls for stronger SA management – ABC News, 2 July 2026

Parts of Central Australia have experienced their wettest year on record, causing an explosion of buffel grass — a highly invasive weed that spreads across the country "like a cancer".

The grass was brought in from Africa and parts of Asia more than 50 years ago to control dust and improve pasture, but recent heavy rain has seen the weed "explode" across SA and the NT, according to the Arid Lands Environment Centre (ALEC).

Advocacy and policy advisor for Central Australia's peak environmental organisation Kathleen Herbert said it has been frightening to watch the weed run rife through the interior.

Invasive Species Council senior advocate James Johnston said the weed was headed towards Port Pirie in South Australia's Spencer Gulf.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2026-07-02/rain-causes-buffel-grass-surge-threatening-landmarks/106722144>

Australia's seagrass meadows under pressure as climate change turns up the heat – Mongabay, 3 July 2026

Australia's Great Barrier Reef is renowned for its coral, but far less so for its expansive seagrass meadows.

"People don't dive on them, don't snorkel on them, and don't go rock pooling on them," said Emma Jackson, director of the Coastal Marine Ecosystems Research Centre (CMERC) at

Central Queensland University. She's a self-confessed seagrass nerd. One reason, she said, is because "they have this wealth of different ecosystem services."

Though they're known as the "ugly cousins" of coral reefs, these flowering grass-like plants provide a home and foraging grounds for marine life, as well as habitat for commercial fish species. These meadows stabilize sediments, help cleanse the water column and sequester substantial amounts of carbon.

"I think when people understand that, then they can share my nerdiness and share that passion for seagrass," Jackson said.

<https://news.mongabay.com/2026/07/australias-seagrass-meadows-under-pressure-as-climate-change-turns-up-the-heat/>

Tiny forests popping up across Sydney as part of effort to restore urban tree canopy – ABC News, 4 July 2026

Tiny forests are starting to spring up in small land plots in Sydney's suburbs as locals look to replace the city's disappearing tree canopy and stave off urban heat.

Taking advantage of underutilised green spaces in council reserves and school grounds, the trees are planted in enriched soil to quickly grow forests in 200-square-metre plots.

One project in West Pymble in Sydney's north has created a patch of endangered Sydney turpentine ironbark forest shading a previously flat grass reserve near a petrol station.

Shannon Antsee from Earthwatch, an NGO that plants small forests, said the West Pymble forest had shot up as high as 7 metres.

"We find that we get really rapid growth of our tiny forests," Ms Antsee said.

"Sometimes council have underused, underutilised parks and we can use those spaces to turn them back into green sanctuaries."

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2026-07-04/tiny-forests-spring-up-as-sydney-restores-tree-canopy/106870060>

Memorial forest grown with cremated ashes opens in New South Wales first – ABC News, 4 July 2026

The death of a 10-year-old girl has moved her parents to open a memorial forest grown with people's ashes near the Blue Mountains.

Piper's Ridge Sanctuary at Wallerawang opened on Saturday and is the first of its kind in New South Wales. It is part of the Living Legacy Forest network, which infuses people's cremated ashes with a tree as a growing memorial.

Deborah Fung and Adrian Chen have planted more than 600 critically endangered Wollemi pines below the cliff lines of the Gardens of Stone State Conservation Area for people to dedicate to a loved one.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2026-07-04/memorial-forest-with-cremated-ashes-opens-in-nsw/106872306>

Wilsons Prom has been scarred by bushfires. It may help us protect other fire-prone forests – The Conversation, 6 July 2026

Our national parks are a haven for humans, plants and animals alike. Protected areas such as national parks are a cornerstone of our efforts to conserve nature. But these unique ecosystems can still bear the scars of past fires, floods and other natural disturbances.

Our new study examines how repeated bushfires have changed, and continue to change, one of Australia's iconic national parks.

Located on Australia's southernmost tip, Wilsons Promontory or "the Prom" is one of Victoria's most popular national parks, famous for its wombats, rosellas, mountains and coastlines. But in the first half of last century, the Prom was repeatedly burnt by intense bushfires. This pushed thousands of hectares of eucalypt forests towards collapse. And as our climate changes, bushfires will only become more frequent and severe.

The history of the Prom may provide a preview of what our forests could look like in a warmer, more fire-prone future. It could also give us clues about how to protect them.

<https://theconversation.com/wilsons-prom-has-been-scarred-by-bushfires-it-may-help-us-protect-other-fire-prone-forests-283377>

Developer quietly sells illegally cleared south Sydney site earmarked for now-rejected mansion – ABC News, 6 July 2026

Residents are questioning how a developer will be forced to replant hundreds of native trees he illegally cleared in Sydney's south to make way for his rejected \$10 million mansion after he secretly sold the waterfront property to a company created a month before the sale.

Amir Abu Abara, the former owner of the 7.4-hectare site in Barden Ridge, was fined \$70,000 in July last year and ordered to remediate the environmentally sensitive bushland to its original condition before he carried out the unauthorised clearing in 2020.

A legally binding enforceable undertaking, signed by the businessman, required him to replant a mix of 38,700 plants, including 600 native trees at the site along the Woronora River, which is home to endangered koalas and the threatened powerful owl.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2026-07-06/developer-quietly-sells-illegally-cleared-barden-ridge-site/106878518>

Environmental groups say Victoria's state forests being logged 'by stealth' – ABC News, 10 July 2026

Blake Nesbit stands by a towering mountain grey gum tree in a mosaic of native forest near Forty Mile Break in Noojee, in Victoria's East. The tree is hollow-bearing, meaning it provides

habitat for wildlife such as the endangered Leadbeater's possum, Victoria's fauna emblem and a critically endangered species.

The tree is also in an area of Gippsland where Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic) is doing hazardous tree removals as part of its fuel breaks.

"This is a tree that our group watch and myself observed greater gliders emerging from its hollows on various nights," Mr Nesbit said.

"Just taking a quick look at the tree, I could tell it had suitable large hollows and could be hosting certain animals."

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2026-07-10/environmental-management-forests-logging/106445380>

Coffee Camp cattle farmer plants 14,000 trees for flood mitigation – ABC News, 10 July 2026

Jeff Imeson is a man who is not afraid to get his hands dirty.

The retired NSW Police officer and fourth-generation cattle farmer has helped to plant about 14,000 trees on his 107-hectare property at Coffee Camp near Nimbin.

"There's not a lot of trees out here and we always started out with the idea that we wanted to re-wild it, make it a productive farm but put some native plants back on it," he said.

"With some [regenerators] and some funding, we've done this in two years.

"But it'll take about seven to 10 years until we can get that canopy to block out that sun, stop the weeds growing and change the environment for the better," he said.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2026-07-10/nature-based-solutions-flooding/106844226>

The battle for Namadgi's bogs: Why the natural filters keeping Canberra's water pure are at risk – Region Media, 11 July 2026

A delicate ecosystem is hidden in the higher mountain areas of Namadgi National Park, working hard to provide Canberrans with clear water to drink. They're freshwater wetlands, also known as bogs and fens, rich in peat and usually covered in sphagnum moss.

The endangered ecosystems also support some of our most vulnerable native species, such as the Northern Corroboree Frog, the Broad-toothed Rat, Verreaux's Alpine Tree Frog, Riek's Crayfish, Kiandra Greenhood and Brandy Mary's Leek Orchid.

They were decimated by the 2020 Orroral Valley bushfire, which burned more than 80 per cent of Namadgi National Park, and climate change is hindering their recovery.

"We're going to have less winter, less snow, and longer, warmer summers in the years ahead," National Parks Association (ACT) president Dr Rosemary Hollow explained.

"This means some of these areas will dry up ... If they dry up, these species have nowhere to go."

<https://region.com.au/the-battle-for-namadgis-bogs-why-the-natural-filters-keeping-canberras-water-pure-are-at-risk/980145/>

Big bees have the most to lose as global CO₂ levels rise: new research – The Conversation, 13 July 2026

Pollinators – including bees, flies, wasps, moths, butterflies and some nectar-loving birds – are a cornerstone of our natural environment. By helping plants reproduce, they keep our ecosystems healthy and ensure we can grow vital food crops. But climate change threatens the very survival of these hard-working animals.

Previous research has focused on how temperature changes affect bees, finding that certain groups are more vulnerable to hotter temperatures. But our new study shows rising carbon dioxide (CO₂) levels may also be putting pollinators – such as bees and hoverflies – at risk.

Larger bees are the most vulnerable. We found populations of big bees – including *Bombus asiaticus* and *Xylocopa pubescens* – were smaller and less genetically diverse in areas with high CO₂. Small-bodied pollinators, however, may actually do better in higher-CO₂ environments.

<https://theconversation.com/big-bees-have-the-most-to-lose-as-global-co-levels-rise-new-research-286559>

Report says growing Sydney's tree canopy would save \$1 billion in health costs – ABC News, 13 July 2026

Taxpayers would save \$1 billion a year in health sector costs if Sydney residents had better access to shady tree canopy and nature, a new report has suggested.

The Sydney think tank Committee for Sydney is calling for a series of new greenways and tree plantings across the city to fight urban heat island effects, especially in areas mooted for greater housing density around train stations under the state government's Transit Oriented Development (TOD) plans.

The healthcare savings estimate comes from a University of Sydney study that found people with more access to greater tree canopy were less likely to need to go to hospital for cardiovascular disease.

A previous report by the committee found heatwaves were costing Western Sydney \$1.4 billion in productivity losses, health costs and household cooling costs.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2026-07-13/one-billion-health-savings-greening-greater-sydney/106901582>

This rare Australian wattle is on the brink of extinction: new research – The Conversation, 16 July 2026

The spidery wattle (*Acacia araneosa*) is a national treasure. This plant is named for its spidery, leaf-like phyllodes and shares the same iconic golden flowers as Australia's floral emblem, the golden wattle (*Acacia pycnantha*).

The spidery wattle is extremely rare, found only in a tiny area of South Australia's Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary and Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges National Park. This, alongside its unusual appearance, makes it a distinctive and beloved part of the landscape.

But this local icon is under threat. In the late 1830s, the first pastoral leases – which allowed livestock grazing on government land – were granted in South Australia. This significantly reshaped the state's landscapes and ecosystems.

Our new study shows since that period, the spidery wattle population has drastically shrunk by about 98%. If this trend continues, the future of this unique species looks grim.

<https://theconversation.com/this-rare-australian-wattle-is-on-the-brink-of-extinction-new-research-287362>

Forest Congress calls for end to old-growth logging in Tasmania but environmental groups want more – ABC News, 16 July 2026

A coalition of conservationists, artists and forest industry figures has called for an end to old-growth logging in Tasmania but major environmental groups have distanced themselves from the "shared vision statement", saying it does not go far enough.

The Forest Congress began in 2023, when artist Kirsha Kaechele from Hobart's Museum of Old and New Art (Mona) invited a variety of disparate groups to discuss the future of the state's forests.

Today, the Forest Congress released what it described as a Palawa-led push to end the harvesting of old-growth trees while supporting a "responsible" forestry industry.

"We agree that forests should be managed for all their values — ecological, cultural, social and economic — with the forest health as the foundation," the statement says.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2026-07-16/forest-congress-calls-for-end-old-growth-logging-tasmania/106922776>

Aussie tourists flock to outback town as annual phenomenon comes early: 'Very promising' – Yahoo News, 17 July 2026

A 'stunning' roadside display in a small outback town has surprised locals and visitors alike with the yearly phenomenon already off to a spectacular start.

Every year, thousands of caravanners and tourists flock to Mullewa, a small town 450 kilometres north of Perth, to witness the desert landscape transform with vivid colours from everlasting flowers and shrubs, usually between August and September.

And this season is already "looking very promising" Natalie Hillier, manager of the town's visitor centre, told Yahoo News.

Heavy rain has caused the famous wildflower season to start early, with "hundreds" of flowers already on display across the region.

"We're already seeing everlastings starting to bloom. We are seeing a couple of orchids popping up on our two trails," she said.

<https://au.news.yahoo.com/aussie-tourists-flock-to-outback-town-as-annual-phenomenon-comes-early-very-promising-211654105.html>

Almost 90 football fields of woody habitat were bulldozed every day in NSW – despite pledges to rein it in – The Guardian, 21 July 2026

Almost 90 football fields' worth of woody habitat were bulldozed in New South Wales every day in 2024, according to new government data which shows the state has failed to rein in high rates of clearing.

Clearing of vegetation across the state increased by 16% in 2024, reaching 81,293 hectares (200,879 acres) in total – an area more than 275 times the size of the Sydney CBD. The increase was due to a sharp jump in clearing of non-woody vegetation, up 70% on the previous year.

Environment groups said the numbers, published in the annual Statewide Landcover and Tree Study (Slate) report on Tuesday, showed the Minns government had failed to deliver its promise to stem the state's high rates of clearing.

"Given there's been no policy change since the government were elected in 2023 it's no surprise to see that land clearing hasn't been fixed," said Jacqui Mumford, chief executive of the Nature Conservation Council of NSW.

"It's incredibly disappointing when they had a commitment to rein in land clearing that we're still seeing such high rates."

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2026/jul/21/nsw-land-clearing-increase-report>

Underwater gardening helping to restore Tasmania's lost kelp forests – ABC News, 21 July 2026

Linnea Bird has travelled from across the Pacific to help restore Tasmania's fast-disappearing giant kelp forests. The 25-year-old Masters student from the United States is one of six participants taking part in a live-in internship program run by the Eaglehawk Dive Centre, an hour's drive south of Hobart.

"Growing up in California and seeing the kelp forests there, it's always been something that I've been interested in," Ms Bird said.

"Being able to go across the world and see very similar ecosystems, but also just different biodiversity, has really drawn me to Tasmania."

Tasmania's giant kelp forests have been rapidly deteriorating since the 1940s. Warming waters and overgrazing by invading sea urchins have led to the decline of what were once abundant marine forests.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2026-07-21/restoring-giant-kelp-forest-tasmania-eaglehawk-neck-dive-interns/106935712>

‘A river is our life force’: why Indigenous cultural values must be visible in conservation – The Conversation, 23 July 2026

In the Kimberley, Martuwarra – also called the Fitzroy River – is far more than a waterway. It is one of Australia’s largest and most intact river systems. It flows about 730 kilometres from the central Kimberley to King Sound in the north of Western Australia.

Martuwarra supports plants, animals, wetlands, floodplains and communities across a catchment of about 94,000 square kilometres. For Traditional Custodians, Martuwarra is living water. It is Cultural identity connected by Country, kin, knowledge and responsibility.

Many species and ecological communities hold deep cultural, spiritual and livelihood importance for Indigenous peoples. Sometimes known as Totems, these Culturally significant entities are not always animals. They may also be plants, landscapes, waters or other parts of the living world that make up Country.

Their meaning depends on Country, culture, family, community and the Knowledge systems to which they belong. But they are rarely acknowledged in national policy, planning or conservation management systems. And this is what environmental management can miss when it sees nature only through categories such as species, habitats, resources or water allocations.

<https://theconversation.com/a-river-is-our-life-force-why-indigenous-cultural-values-must-be-visible-in-conservation-286657>

Western Australia’s southwest peatlands: ancient wetlands, extraordinary wildlife and the science helping to protect them – UWA News, 23 July 2026

Hidden among the towering forests, heathlands and granite peaks of Western Australia’s southwest lies one of Australia’s most remarkable ecosystems. These are the *Empodisma* peatlands, ancient wetlands that have quietly accumulated carbon, retained and filtered water and supported unique wildlife for thousands of years.

Although *Empodisma* peatlands occur in relatively small and scattered pockets of the southwest bioregion, they can store vast amounts of carbon when they remain in good condition. They also provide habitat for species found nowhere else, such as the endemic sunset frog, discovered in the 1990s. Today, researchers are using genetics, environmental DNA (eDNA) and large-scale biodiversity monitoring to better understand and protect these unique environments.

<https://www.uwa.edu.au/news/article/2026/july/Western-Australias-southwest-peatlands-ancient-wetlands-extraordinary-wildlife-and-the-science-helping-to-protect-them>

How retirees, beachcombers and communities help scientists track everything from threatened species to algal blooms – The Conversation, 23 July 2026

How healthy are Australia's ecosystems? To answer that, scientists need data. But Australia is huge – and the number of professional scientists is limited. That's where citizen science can help.

Every winter, thousands of grey nomads take to the roads and head north. Families return to familiar campgrounds for school holidays. Bushwalkers move through forests and along coastlines. School students catch invertebrates in rivers to learn about waterway health.

Each of these groups – and many more – can collect data vital to conservation efforts. When a citizen scientist uploads a photo of a flower, frog or animal to a central repository such as iNaturalist and eBird, anyone can see it and the location, date and time it was observed.

Citizen science – public participation and collaboration in scientific research – is coming of age. Increasingly, professional scientists are partnering with citizen scientists – and making requests.

<https://theconversation.com/how-retirees-beachcombers-and-communities-help-scientists-track-everything-from-threatened-species-to-algal-blooms-268199>

Botany courses becoming an endangered species – ABC Radio National, 25 July 2026

With National Science Week coming up this month we are being asked to select favourite native flowers to celebrate. However, as Professor Darren Crayn at James Cook University in Cairns remarks, while enjoying some benefits of plant life in the moment, we are neglecting the larger field of botany – fewer courses are being taught at universities, sometimes as mere add-ons in biology courses. And yet plant life is so incredibly diverse in Australia that 150 new species are discovered every year.

<https://www.abc.net.au/listen/programs/scienceshow/botany-courses-becoming-an-endangered-species/106955638>

At 'Fairyland' on Bruny Island, science and traditional knowledge combine to look after nature – ABC News, 26 July 2026

On a sunny winter afternoon, Paul Davis kneels to the ground and sets a patch of vegetation alight. He is guided by cultural fire practitioner and Palawa man Jason Smith.

"As soon as those natives start to brown off, they're actually telling us they need fire," Mr Smith says.

Fire is key to managing this landscape, known as Fairyland.

In the 1840s, European colonisers on Lunawuni/Bruny Island in Tasmania's south named the property after the little penguins — also known as fairy penguins — nesting there.

About 160 years later, Paul Davis and his family stumbled upon Fairyland in 2002 while looking for a beachside shack to buy.

"We couldn't resist, it was such a remarkable place," he says.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2026-07-26/fairyland-tasmania-bruny-island-science-traditional-knowledge/106897390>

Neighbours create 40-hectare wildlife corridor amid Sydney's expanding urban fringe – ABC News, 26 July 2026

Lesley Hulbert remembers when the bird-filled forest behind her home bordering a Sydney national park went quiet. Bushfires raged just minutes away from her Kurrajong Heights home for months at the end of 2019 and the start of 2020. The gang-gang cockatoos, koalas and wallabies that used to frequent her backyard seemed to disappear.

"I used to find lots of koala droppings on the property. All that stopped," Ms Hulbert said.

In the last couple of years, she has seen possums and wallabies returning, captured on trail camera footage set up near a pond she built with her husband.

Now she is worried the quiet will come again, not from fires but from development encroaching on the belt of national parks that surround Sydney's north-west Hawkesbury region. She has banded together with several neighbours to form a 40-hectare wildlife corridor, connecting the Wollemi and Blue Mountains national parks.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2026-07-26/neighbors-create-40-hectare-wildlife-corridor-kurrajong-heights/106780564>

Julalikari council and Tennant Mines team up to help Indigenous residents work at Nobles Nob - ABC News, 27 July 2026

In a warm greenhouse in Tennant Creek, Warumungu woman Shauna Graham pats down soil at the base of a seedling in a pot. The young, spindly plant will soon be ready to put down roots and grow on mining land a few kilometres away, as part of a tree planting rehabilitation project.

While Ms Graham has been nurturing the plant to grow, a feeling has been blooming inside herself.

"It makes me feel happy and proud of myself," she said.

The traditional owner said the rehabilitation site was right next to her country.

"It makes me, like, safe, close at home, you know? Building things out there and making plans out there, growing for the future."

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2026-07-27/julalikari-and-tennant-mines-team-up-for-jobs/106943324>

Fire can destroy peatlands. But in Australia, it can also help protect them – The Conversation, 28 July 2026

Peatlands are the unsung heroes of nature. These ancient wetlands form when dead and decaying plants partly decompose in wet, low-oxygen conditions. Over thousands of years, this plant material builds up and turns into a dark, soil-like substance known as peat.

Brazil, Indonesia and central Africa's Congo Basin are all famous for their peatlands. Australia is also dotted with these ancient wetlands.

Peatlands are crucial carbon stores, locking up roughly one-third of the carbon found in our planet's soils. But when peat dries out and burns, the consequences can be disastrous: incinerated soils, smouldering wetlands, air pollution and massive carbon emissions.

But surprisingly, peat fires in dry Australia aren't always a problem. Sometimes, these fires do vital ecological work.

<https://theconversation.com/fire-can-destroy-peatlands-but-in-australia-it-can-also-help-protect-them-287374>

Land-clearing concerns spark call to scrap NSW invasive native species code – ABC News, 30 July 2026

A code that classifies native plants including coolabah trees, river red gums and mulga wattle as "invasive" species has led to the approval of more than 3.2 million hectares of land for clearing, according to the Nature Conservation Council of New South Wales (NCC). The peak conservation body has called for the classification to be scrapped to rein in what it considers excessive "high-risk" land clearing in NSW.

NCC conservation officer Candice Bartlett, who authored a new report on the code, said the NCC found no scientific basis for the "invasive" label, with 44 of the 45 species listed as invasive native species (INS) occurring within their natural range.

"[INS] is a term unique to NSW and it's creating a legal pathway to destroy native vegetation," she said.

Ms Bartlett said the INS code allowed up to 90 per cent of native vegetation to be removed from a 1,000 hectare block.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2026-07-30/nature-conservation-council-invasive-native-species-farmers/106945940>

Events and Opportunities

Invitation to Comment on the Draft National Recovery Plan for Monsoon vine thickets on the coastal sand dunes of Dampier Peninsula

The Draft National Recovery Plan for Monsoon vine thickets on the coastal sand dunes of Dampier Peninsula has been released for public consultation. The ecological community is listed as Endangered under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. This Draft Recovery Plan highlights the Cultural significance of the ecological community, and compiles the broad actions that would maximise its protection, management and recovery.

You are invited to provide any comments you may have on the draft plan, particularly any feedback on the threats and recovery actions contained within the plan. The consultation period lasts for three months and will close on the **26th September 2026**. Earlier submissions are welcomed to allow as much time as possible to consider and address any new information and comments.

<https://app.converlens.com/climate-au/draft-national-recovery-plan-for-the-monsoon-vine-thickets-on-the-coastal-sand-dunes-of-dampier>

National Biodiversity Offsets Conference 4.0 – Canberra ACT, 4-6 August 2026

Australia's premier forum on biodiversity offsets returns for its fourth iteration, with the theme Nature Positive by 2030: Integrity, Restoration and Net Gain in Action.

The National Biodiversity Offsets Conference draws environmental practitioners, policymakers, regulatory staff, offset brokers, environmental accountants, academics, legal professionals and landholders involved in offset delivery.

Over three days, you'll gain practical insight from those delivering offsets on the ground, hear the latest policy and regulatory developments, explore emerging biodiversity markets, and connect with around 400 peers across government, consultancy, academia and industry.

<https://www.eianz.org/events/event/national-biodiversity-offsets-conference-40-nature-positive-by-2030-integrity-restoration-and-net-gain-in-action>

World Ecoacoustics Congress 2026 Cairns, Australia – Cairns QLD, 17-20 August 2026

The WEC happens every 2 years and attracts hundreds of delegates to discuss advances and innovations in Ecoacoustics.

Call for Symposia and Call for Workshops are now open.

<https://ecoacoustics2026.org/>

13th International Conference on Cycad Biology (CYCAD2026) – Sydney NSW, 17-22 August 2026

The theme is “*Cultivating Conservation through Science and Horticulture*”.

CYCAD2026 will gather international delegates including academic researchers, conservation and horticultural experts, representatives from leading botanical institutions, and industry leaders and innovators.

Attendees will explore advancements in plant biology, genetics, ecological restoration, horticulture, and more—through keynote addresses, networking opportunities, and collaborative sessions.

Donate to support the running of the conference here: <https://www.rbq.vic.gov.au/cycad-2026>

24th Australasian Weeds Conference (24AWC) – Christchurch NZ, 23-27 August 2026

On behalf of the Council of Australasian Weed Societies (CAWS), the New Zealand Biosecurity Institute (NZBI) and the New Zealand Plant Protection Society (NZPPS) are excited to host the 24th Australasian Weeds Conference.

Please plan to join us in Christchurch, 23 -27 August 2026, at Te Pae, the city's new convention centre.

<https://caws.org.nz/upcoming-awc-2/>

15th Australasian Plant Conservation Conference (APCC15) – Port Douglas QLD, 24-28 August 2026

The 15th Australasian Plant Conservation Conference (APCC15) will be held at the Port Douglas Community Hall in the Queensland Wet Tropics from 24-28 August 2026.

With the overall theme ‘*Plant Conservation: Culture, Collaboration and Change*’ APCC15 will explore these three spheres of native plant recovery through rainforest restoration partnerships, collaborations with Traditional Owner groups, impacts of climate change induced natural disasters, management of threatened species and communities, and biosecurity threats such as Myrtle Rust.

Registrations extended to August 14! Virtual registrations also available for those who cannot attend in person.

<https://www.anpc.asn.au/conferences-apcc15/>

Amazing Arid Australia (ANPSA Conference) – Mparntwe Alice Springs NT, 24-28 August 2026

The conference theme is dedicated to the 70 per cent of Australia that is arid or semi-arid. Over five days the conference will be your chance to hear about and see native plants and their habitats in central Australia. There will be three days of keynote talks, themed breakouts, two afternoon outings and two days of excursions into the MacDonnell Ranges and special places around Alice Springs. We are confident that you will have a wonderful

experience learning about Amazing Arid Australia and meeting fellow native plant enthusiasts.

<https://www.anpsaconference.com/>

12th Australian Stream Management Conference (12ASM) – Kingscliff NSW, 6-9 September 2026

The theme of 12ASM will be “Living and evolving with change”, recognising the development and maturing of the stream management industry and science that supports it, particularly since the first ASM conference, and how we consider living rivers. We look forward to 12ASM bringing together our peers for a collaborative forum of discussion and debate on new and emerging issues, practical challenges encountered, experimental research findings, emerging trends and recent innovations.

<https://12asm.org/>

DIG Conference 2026 – Perth WA, 8-9 September 2026

This year's Dieback Information Group Conference (DIG 2026) marks the 30th Anniversary of the Dieback Working Group, celebrating a whopping three decades of leadership in Phytophthora Dieback management.

DIG brings together researchers, land managers, government agencies, Traditional Custodians, industry leaders and community champions from across Australia and beyond to share knowledge, inspire action and strengthen our collective response to phytophthora dieback and other environmental biosecurity threats.

<https://www.dwg.org.au/dig-conference-2026/>

Nature-Climate Action: Our Opportunity to Lead (2026 ALCA Conference) – Nipaluna/Hobart TAS, 6-9 October 2026

Australia's biggest land conservation event.

As one of Australia's most significant events for the land conservation sector, this annual gathering is where the critical conversations, partnerships and ideas driving nature action come together.

The 2026 ALCA Conference will bring over 400 delegates together – conservation changemakers and practitioners, First Nations leaders and land managers, policymakers, researchers, business, finance and industry experts, landholders and community representatives – all working to drive collective impacts for nature, people and planet.

<https://www.alca.org.au/events/conference/2026>

NZPCN 2026 Conference – Te Whanganui-a-Tara, Wellington NZ, 12-15 October 2026

The theme is Māhia ngā here - Collaboration for better conservation. This theme celebrates the power of working together, reflecting on past and present collaborations in plant conservation, and exploring how we can strengthen these connections for the future.

The 2026 conference coincides with the 100-year anniversary of the Ōtari Native Botanic Garden and Wilton's Bush Reserve. On Monday 12 October, a formal event will commemorate the centenary, marking 100 years to the day since Ōtari was officially opened.

The conference will run from Monday to Thursday, with workshops and a welcome event on Monday, symposia on Tuesday and Wednesday, and field trips on Thursday. Our field trips and workshops will make the most of the beautiful Wellington flora.

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/nzpcn/events/2026-nzpcn-conference/>

Territory NRM Conference – Darwin NT, 17-19 November 2026

The Territory Natural Resource Management (TNRM) Conference is the Northern Territory's leading event focused on natural resource management. It showcases leading expertise, on-ground initiatives, and community-driven solutions from across the NT.

Over three dynamic days, the conference offers valuable professional development and networking opportunities. Attendees can participate in tailored workshops, engage with a wide range of insightful presentations, explore poster displays, and interact with innovative exhibitions.

<https://www.tnrmconference.org.au/>

ESA 2026: Conference of the Ecological Society of Australia – Brisbane QLD, 29 November-4 December 2026

ESA2026 will deliver a dynamic and engaging program showcasing the latest ecological research, innovation and practice from across Australia and the broader ecological community.

The conference program will feature a range of presentation formats, including poster presentations, five-minute speed talks and 15-minute oral presentations, providing opportunities for delegates at all career stages to share ideas, research findings and practical insights.

In addition to the scientific program, ESA2026 will offer a diverse range of workshops, field trips, networking opportunities and social events designed to foster collaboration, professional development and meaningful connections across the ecological community.

Key dates for your calendar:

- Early Bird registration closes: 25 August 2026
- Conference Travel Grants close 31 August 2026

<https://esa2026.org.au/>

Island Arks Symposium IX: Ridge to Reef: Sustaining Biodiversity, Culture and Connection – Norfolk Island, 30 November-2 December 2026

Norfolk Island National Park, together with the Norfolk Island Flora & Fauna Society and the Australian Island Alliance, is honoured to host the Island Arks Symposium IX on Norfolk Island.

The Island Arks Symposia are held biennially to foster collaboration among practitioners and custodians dedicated to protecting island ecosystems across Australia and beyond. They bring together land managers, scientists, First Nations Peoples, and policymakers to discuss, deliberate, and shape responses to critical issues affecting conservation and sustainable development. Through open knowledge exchange and partnership building, the symposia strengthen networks, build shared strategies, and drive tangible conservation outcomes across island landscapes.

<https://kaigi-islandarkssymposiumix.eventsair.site/>