

Autumn Newsletter 2021

As the temperature gets cooler and everyone slows down for the colder months, the initiative continues to pick up the pace! Everyone is keeping busy with the iNaturalist competitions running each month until December! Each month you can win gift card prizes while adding observations to your count to win a Spicer's retreat dinner voucher! We have two more exciting workshops planned for this year, so keep an eye out and get ready to RSVP!

As many of you have heard, we are in the process of launching two citizen science projects! The first project is looking at the presence of pest fauna, particularly introduced canids. Gathering this critical information on pest fauna will help inform the LLRI pest fauna management strategy

and inform how best we can implement widescale pest management across the range.

The second project focuses on the presence and distribution of the Glossy Black Cockatoo feed trees! Very little is known about where the Glossy's are hanging out in the Little Liverpool Range so join in to help us find out.

Remember to keep up to date by following our social media pages or visit our website.

Instagram:@littliverpoolrange

Facebook:@littliverpoolrange

<https://www.llri.com.au/>



A brush-tailed rock-wallaby (*Petrogale penicillata*)



The first 'office hours' at the Hidden Vale Wildlife Centre. Our first afternoon tea was conducted in partnership with the HV Koala Project! Keep an eye out for upcoming office hours and afternoon teas.

Pest features:

The Indian myna (*Acridotheres tristis*)

The Indian Myna is considered to be within the world's top 100 invasive species. The myna is often confused with the native noisy miner (*Manorina melanocephala*). This species is known to be very competitive giving it the ability for populations to quickly grow in number.

The Indian Myna is native to southern Asia and India and was first introduced to Australia as a means of keeping insect populations down within Melbourne's market gardens.

This species has gone on to be quite the pest, taking nesting hollows from native species. With an already decreasing availability of hollows from historic and ongoing land clearing, our native species are struggling to find and stay in their homes.



Indian myna (*Acridotheres tristis*)

LLR Native Species Profile

Common name:
Yellow-footed Antechinus

Scientific name:
Antechinus flavipes

Conservation status:
Least concern

Lifespan:
Female: approx. 2-3 years
Male: 1 year

Population trend:
Stable

Fun Fact:
Male antechinus die after their first mating season due to their frenzied mating behaviour which leads to a compromised immune system, thus resulting in their death due to stress.





Matter of Local Environmental Significance species found in the range



Melaleuca styphelioides, Prickly paperbark. Photo credit: Martin Bennett

An impromptu visit to a landholder’s property in the Little Liverpool Range by Martin Bennett (Lockyer Valley Regional Council) sparked the discovery of a locally significant species – the prickly paperbark. This species of paperbark has only 10 records on the Atlas of Living Australia in South-east Queensland and the LLRI has just added one more! Prickly paperbark is a tall shrub which can grow to 20m. As its name suggests its bark is ‘paper-like’ with small prickly/pointed leaves. Small, cream bottlebrush flowers can be seen on the tree. This species prefers damp areas, often along stream banks and is known to grow on elevated water tables at 440m at Mt Whitestone in the Lockyer Valley.

This is the beauty of the Little Liverpool Range Initiative! It brings together groups and people to discover and document species that we haven’t had the chance to before.

LLRI Landholder Highlight: Outstanding conservation efforts!

Sam and Tony Andreata are some of the newest members of the Little Liverpool Range Initiative joining Land for Wildlife in the Lockyer Valley and the initiative in September of 2020. From the get-go this fantastic couple have utilised every resource available to them to better understand and restore their property. Tony’s exceptional photography skills also won him the Fauna category of the LLRI Photo competition at the beginning of this year (King parrot photo featured)! The drive to be good custodians of their land pushed the Andreata’s to join LFW and the LLRI.

“We wanted to learn about what we had on the land, both flora and fauna, and how to best look after it” – Sam Andreata.

Since buying their property the Andreata’s have been involved in everything possible to help restore their property from helping researchers conduct toad control on their property, to manually removing lantana with future plans to replace lantana with native plants. Sam and Tony love their little piece of Australian bush with extraordinary king parrots flying about, wallabies hopping around and frogs croaking. This inspiring couple aims to provide better and safe habitat for the animals and would like to support ecologically significant species by providing resources that may be declining in other areas. Whilst overcoming their major challenges, Sam and Tony aim to use best practice techniques to manage their property sustainably!



King Parrott (*Alisterus scapularis*)
Photo credit: Tony Andreata



Red-necked wallaby (*Macropus rufogriseus*)
Photo credit: Tony Andreata





Research Showcase – Mickayla Heinemann – Hidden Vale Wildlife Centre Student

Hi, my name is Mickayla Heinemann, I am an Honours student at the University of Southern Queensland and working with the Hidden Vale Wildlife Centre, conducting my research project on frogs! We have so many amazing species of native frogs that many people don't know about, and many of them are threatened with extinction.

My main research question is testing the viability of using artificial light above pitfall traps to increase frog captures (by first attracting their prey (insects) to the light). I am also testing a method to survey tree frogs, by using PVC and bamboo as artificial refuge – like how green tree frogs (*Litoria caerulea*) use drainpipes around homes.

Ultimately, my research aims to find methods that can aid in improving data collection for our native frogs to help better inform conservation projects for these amazing animals.

So far I have caught some really cute species on the Old Hidden Vale property! My favourites though would have to be the large toadlet (*Pseudophryne major*), short-footed frogs (*Cyclorana brevipes*) and the green-thighed frog (*Litoria brevipalmata*).

Keep an eye out for these little guys on your property!

Researcher Mickayla Heinemann hanging out with her froggy friends!



Upcoming events

June 2021 – iNaturalist competition targeting wattles

July 2021 – iNaturalist competition targeting Native tree species

August 2021 – iNaturalist competition targeting grasses

12th of August 2021 – Regeneration and restoration technique workshop

September 2021 – iNaturalist competition targeting birds

11th – 12th September – Glossy Black Conservancy – Glossy Black Birding Day annual census

